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SOUTHEAST AMBRYM DICTIONARY

by

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## INTRODUCTION

This work lists approximately 1,800 Southeast Ambrym lexemes recorded in the New Hebrides during the summers of 1967 and 1968. The orthography employed reflects the phonological analysis presented in the article 'Southeast Ambrym phonology', *Oceanic Linguistics* 7:81-91 (1968).

Entries in the 'Southeast Ambrym lexicon' section have the following components. (a) A Southeast Ambrym lexeme.<sup>1</sup> (b) One or more symbols which classify the lexeme according to grammatical and morphophonemic criteria as defined below. (c) An English gloss or series of glosses, and/or a brief prose statement dealing with the meaning or function of the lexeme. (d) For many lexemes, reference to historically related lexemes introduced by 'Cf....'. These references are intended to indicate, at least partially, the derivation of complex stems. However, stem derivation in SEA is extremely complicated, involving compounding, affixation, and reduplication, each of several types and is not well understood at the present state of my knowledge of the language. Thus many stems which are certainly complex are not followed by reference to related lexemes. There is one exception to this use of references: when a verb stem and its *en*-nominalization occur in close proximity their relationship is too obvious to warrant cross-referencing. (e) For some lexemes, reference to synonyms or other semantically related lexemes introduced by 'see.....'. I have not attempted to be systematic in providing references of this sort. (f) Examples are given for some lexemes.

Kin term definitions, using the standard anthropological abbreviations, are taken from Robert Tonkinson's monograph 'Maat Village, Efate: A relocated community in the New Hebrides', Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, 1968.

Nouns (*N*). Most nouns are never inflected, and are simply designated by the symbol '*N*'. There are in addition three closed classes of nouns as follows. Inalienable nouns (*NInal*) and classifying nouns (*NClas*) are always immediately followed by either a personal suffix or a noun indicating possessor. The four *NClas*

(/a, ma, sa, na/) may also stand in apposition with a preceding *N*, and are obligatory here when an animate possessor is involved. The inflection and morphophonemics of the *NInal* and *NClas* have been described in detail in my article 'Morphophonemics of the inalienable nouns in Southeast Ambrym', University of Hawaii *Working Papers in Linguistics* 7:97-114 (1969), and this analysis will not be repeated here. For present purposes, however, these stems are entered in a form slightly different from that used in the article. In the case of compound stems, the internal boundary symbol has been deleted and the truncation rule  $V \rightarrow \emptyset / VC\_ \#$  has been applied. In the case of those stems whose final vowels are deleted by the truncation rule, the vowel is written with a capital letter; thus, for example, /vaŋE/ *belly* occurs as /vaŋ/ when the possessor is not indicated by a suffix. If the final vowel is not written with a capital, this indicates that the truncation rule does not apply. This work lists two members of *NInal* which were not included in section four of the article: /tasE/ and /he<sub>4</sub>/. *N-te* nouns (*N-te*) are stems which end with a suffix /-te/ whose vowel is deleted when a possessing *N* follows; for example, /vatlte/ *tree (of a specific kind)*, /vatit eal/ *pine tree*. The *N-te* stems are: /aŋutE, halitE, hilutE, hohltE, huitE, huŋuitE, husutE, lsitE, koutE, litE, masutE, merutE, rælltE, rutE, senutE, silutE, sutE, tavaŋitE, tepəŋltE, tutE, tututE, utE, ututE, valltE, vaŋitE, vatitE, vulutE, vutE/.

**Verbs (V).** Finite verbs fall into five major syntactic classes: equational (*VEq*), intransitive (*VInt*), obligatory-object transitive (*VTr+Ob*), optional-object transitive (*VTr±Ob*), and reflexive (*VTrRef*). Before turning to the definition of these classes, certain general aspects of verb inflection and morphophonemics must be discussed. The analysis presented here differs in various respects from the treatment found in my article 'Southeast Ambrym verb inflection and morphophonemics' in *Pacific Linguistics*, Series A - Occasional Papers No. 15, *Papers in Linguistics of Melanesia* No. 1:27-40 (1968).

There are four position classes of verb prefixes: person, number, tense and mode. The person prefixes are: Singular /nA-/ First, /o-/ Second, and /mI-/ Third; Non-singular /rA-/ First Inclusive, /mA-/ First Exclusive, /mu-/ Second, and /IA-/ Third. The non-singular person prefixes combine with either of the number prefixes /LU-/ Dual and /TEL-/ Paucal. The persons or person-number combinations may precede either of the tense prefixes /tE-/ Past and /I-/ Future. Mode prefixes are the following. /N-/ Indicative indicates an action which is real in the sense that it has at least begun (it may also be complete), whereas /VA-/ Subjunctive indicates an action which is

unreal in the sense that it has not begun. These prefixes are mutually exclusive with the tense prefixes, and have no close translations in English. /na-/ Potential is always preceded by the future tense; it is similar in meaning to the Subjunctive but is more definite and can be translated by English *might*. /naa-/ Negative is always preceded by a tense prefix, while /taa-/ Negative occurs when no tense prefix is present.<sup>2</sup>

Most verbs are never inflected for Indicative, and these are termed **regular verbs**. These verbs may be inflected for Subjunctive only in the third person singular and in the non-singular persons inflected for number. For example, the regular verb /pat/ *to sleep* has the third singular subjunctive form /vapat/ *he may sleep, is about to sleep*, and the simple form /pat/ (the third person singular prefix /Ml-/ is realized as Ø before labial consonants, and never precedes other prefixes) is understood as Indicative *he sleeps, is sleeping, has slept*. Similarly in the dual and paucal forms, subjunctive /ralopat, ratopat; malopat, matopat; mulopat, mutopat; lalopat, latopat/ contrast with the respective indicative forms /rupat, ratapat; mapat, matapat; mupat, mutapat; lupat, latapat/ in which the mode is signalled only by the absence of the subjunctive prefix. In the remaining person-numbers there is a single form which is ambiguous as to Indicative-Subjunctive: /napat, opat, rapat, mapat, mupat, lapat/.

Verbs which may be inflected for Indicative are termed **irregular**. Some of these are inflected for Subjunctive in all person-numbers, while others are inflected for Subjunctive only in those person-numbers where the regular verbs show subjunctive inflection. The class of irregular verbs includes all those whose initial consonant is /v/, /h/ or /x/, and most of those whose initial consonant is /t/. The initial consonant of the base form occurs unaltered by morphophonemic rules in the Imperative (a completely uninflected form), in the tense-marked forms, in the Potential, in the third person singular subjunctive, and in the *en*-nominalization, except for a small class of *x*-stems which undergo a deletion  $x \rightarrow \emptyset$  in these forms. Thus /hasi/ *to hit* shows the initial /h/ in /hasi/ *hit him!*, /nihasi/ *I'll hit him*, /natehasi/ *I hit him (past)*, /ninahasi/ *I might hit him*, /vahasi/ *he's about to hit him*, and /hasien/ *hitting*. Some irregular verbs also show the initial consonant of the base form in all subjunctive and/or negative forms, and those *x*-stems which undergo the deletion rule show /x/ only in negative forms. The indicative prefix combines with the basic initial consonants of the irregular verbs to produce a nasalized stop /b/, /d/ or /g/. When the subjunctive prefix is phonetically realized in all personal-numbers, it combines with the basic initial consonant to produce /m/ in the first singular and /v/

in the second singular and in the plural forms. Some irregular verbs show an unpredictable /v/ or /x/ in negative forms. These various distributional and morphophonemic facts are correlated and summarized in the following table of irregular verb paradigm-types.

	Basic #C	Indicative	Negative	Subjunctive
(1)	v	b		NO
(2)	h	b	v	YES
(3)	h	b		YES
(4)	h	g		YES
(5)	h	g	x	YES
(6)	x	g		NO
(7)	x → Ø	g	x	YES
(8)	t	d		NO

In the negative column the initial consonant is the basic one if not specified otherwise. In the subjunctive column YES indicates that the prefix is present in all person-numbers. To illustrate we may use the verb /hasl/, which is of type (2). The indicative forms are /nabasi, obasi, basi, rubasi, ratabasi, rabasi/ etc. The subjunctive forms are /namasi, ovasi, vahasi, ralohasi, ratohasi, ravasi/ etc. Negative forms show /v/: /nataavasi-ti/ *I haven't hit him*, /ralnaavasi-ti/ *we-two (inc.) won't hit him*, /otnaavasi-ti/ *you (sg.) didn't hit him*, etc. In this work the form class identifications for irregular verbs all end with a parenthesized number which indicates the paradigm type of the stem; thus /hasl/ carries the identification 'VTr+Ob(2)'.

The class *VEq* is represented only by /he/ *VEq(2)* 'to be', whose third person singular indicative form /be/ is optionally deleted. /he/ occurs in predicates where it is followed by a noun (or noun phrase) or pronoun, or predicate attribute (*PredAt*, as defined below); it is never followed by an adjective.

The class *VInt* includes a great many stems which translate English adjectives. *VInt* stems underlie most *VTr+Ob*.

Obligatory-object transitive verbs, *VTr+Ob*, are always immediately followed by either a noun (or noun phrase) or a singular person suffix, with the qualification that the third person suffix is Ø or biphonemic /-ni/ in the case of stems which end in front vowels. *VTr+Ob* stems are written with the third person suffix represented by a capital letter, and the four possibilities are seen in the examples /hill/ *to dig*, /loŋE/ *to hear*, /kila/ *to know*, and /xanl/ *to eat*. There are two reasons for this convention. First, Austronesianists will recognize these vowels as part of the historical roots. Second, the shape of the second person suffix is predictable from the shape



of the third, as follows:

/-i/:-uk/::/-e/:-ok/::/-a/:-ak/::/-ni/:-nuk/.

The first person suffix is invariably /-nou/. Stems which show no third person suffix are of two types: if the final vowel is /a/ the second person suffix has the shape /-k/; if the final vowel is /i/ the second person suffix has the shape /-uk/.<sup>3</sup> A few *VTr+Ob* stems are never inflected for person, but take obligatory nominal or clausal (direct quote) objects; the commonest of these are /te/ *to be on*, /he/ *to go to*, /xo/ *to be from*, /hit/ or /hitene/ *to say*, /xa/ *to say*. The nominal object of a *VTr+Ob* stem cannot be a singular pronoun.<sup>4</sup>

Optional-object transitive verbs, *VTr±Ob*, are very numerous and are almost all derived with the clitic /-ni/ from *VInt* stems; e.g. /meloxoluk/ *to be black*, /meloxoluk-ni/ *to blacken*; /hol/ *to dance*, /hol-ni/ *to dance* (tr.). First person object with these stems is indicated by the suffix /-nou/, second person by either the suffix in the shape /-uk/ or the pronoun /xouk/, and third person (animate) by the peronoun /xi/ or other nominal. Several *VTr±Ob* are morphologically like the *VTr+Ob*, e.g. /xani/ *erupt*, *burn*, *ignite*: /venu gan/ *the volcano erupts*, /upan gani/ *the fire burns it*. These stems might alternatively be classified as *VInt-Tr+Ob* in contrast to the *VTr±Ob* with /-ni/, though it is not clear what the basis for positing such a distinction would be.

Reflexive verbs, *VTrRef*, always occur with a suffix or nominal object which agrees in person and number with the actor. As is the case with *VTr±Ob* derived with /-ni/, first person object is indicated by /-nou/, second person by either the suffix or /xouk/, and third person by /xi/ or other nominal. A single stem, /hasii/ *to be glad*, *be happy*, is uniquely *VTrRef*, though a number of stems have reflexive as well as general transitive function and are designated as *VTr+Ob-Ref*. For example: /liŋi/ *to put*, *place*; *to lie down*, /miliŋi/ *he puts it/him/her*, /miliŋ xi/ *he lies down*.

Auxiliary verbs (*VAux*) include three stems /ta/, /ti/, and /tit/ which immediately precede finite verbs. The *VAux* is optionally inflected for person, but otherwise has only two forms, indicative (/da/, /di/, /dit/) and non-indicative (ta/, /ti/, /tit/). /ta/ and /ti/ are very frequent but untranslatable; these also function as finite *VInt*.

Transitive adverbials (*TrAdv*) include ten stems which immediately follow transitive verb stems. Each *TrAdv* has its own set of personal object suffixes, or /-ni/, precluding the forms of these morphemes which could follow the verb stem if the *TrAdv* were not present. If the verb is *VTr±Ob* derived with /-ni/, /-ni/ follows the *TrAdv*; if



the *TrAdv* is one that has object suffixes the third person suffix is obligatory, but if the *TrAdv* itself takes /-ni/ this is deleted. We can illustrate these rules with the verbs /pusl/ and /pol-ni/, and the *TrAdv* /xatl/ and /vari-ni/.

pusl + xatl → pus xatl  
 pol-ni + xatl → pol xati-ni  
 pusl + vari-ni → pus vari-ni  
 pol-ni + vari-ni → pol vari-ni

The *TrAdv* are: /kuhl, lelenl, mätu-ni, muel-ni, pelei, ra(r)a:tl, relinl, usill, vari-ni, xatl/.

**Pronouns (Pron).** There are sixteen personal pronouns: /inou/ or /inau/ *I*, /xouk/ or /xeuk/ *you* (sg.), /xi/ *he, she*, /ralu/ *we* (dual, inc.), /ratel/ *we* (paucal, inc.), /xir/ *we* (plural, inc.), /xamæl/ *we* (dual, exc.), /xamætel/ *we* (paucal, exc.), /xamæm/ *we* (plural, exc.), /xamil/ *you* (dual), /xamitel/ *you* (paucal), /xami/ *you* (plural, inc.), /xamim/ *you* (plural, exc.), /xalu/ *they* (dual), /xatel/ *they* (paucal), /xil/ *they* (plural).

**Predicate attributes (PredAt)** comprise a large class of stems which always follow the *VEq* /he/ *to be*.

**Adjectives (Adj)** include a small number of postposed noun modifiers. Most of the stems which have this function also function as adverbs, nouns, or pronouns, the last of these categories involving the third person non-singular pronouns which mark number in noun phrases. Four position classes of stems with adjectival function are seen in the example /moletin nen xil mun ak/ *these same people*, literally *person same they still this*.

**Numerals (Num).** This class includes five stems: /tei/ *one*, /lu/ *two*, /tol/ *three*, /hat/ *four*, and /lim/ *five*. The first four of these may modify nouns, but /lim/ is replaced by the *Adj* /hateipin/ in noun phrases. The English counting system is now replacing the native one, and the younger speakers are often unable to count above ten without using English. The native system can be seen from the following examples: /tei he sap/ *six* (lit. *one hand other*), /he xalu/ *ten* (lit. *hand they-two*), /tei e le/ *eleven* (lit. *one on leg*), /le tei bus/ *fifteen* (lit. *leg one finishes*), /tei mun e le tei/ *sixteen* (lit. *one again on leg one*), /hanu tap/ *twenty* (lit. *person whole*).

**Adverbs (Adv)** fall into a number of subclasses defined by range of modification and position in the sentence. This aspect of the syntax is not well understood at present; where possible such information is given in the entries for specific adverbs.

**Prepositions (*Prep*).** There are sixteen prepositions, nine of which may, in the manner of most obligatory object transitive verbs, be inflected for person as an alternative to taking a noun phrase object. The members of the class *Prep* are: /e, miNI, na, ni, pe, reNI, tahal, teNI, uate, veNI, vesl, visell, xal, xatl, xolE, xorau/. /e, pe, teNI, veNI/ show an optional syllable /na/ in the uninflected form. *Prep* /na/ is identified as the stem which otherwise functions as a classifying noun, since the person inflection is identical: /navan/ for me, /nam/ for you, /nan/ for him.

**Relative (*Rel*):** a single stem /xa/ that, which, who.

**Coordinative (*Coord*):** /mu/ or, /e/ but, and.

**Interjection (*Interj*).**

Two further conventions must be noted. (1) Loanwords from English are preceded by an asterisk. (2) Many verbs show a reduplicated initial CV sequence from which the vowel is dropped when any prefix(es) occur(s) with the stem. Since there are a few exceptions to this rule (e.g. /mama<sub>1</sub>, lele, tata<sub>1</sub>, soso<sub>2</sub>), the vowels which do drop are written with capitals.

## N O T E S

1. A few lexeme variants are also entered. If a form is followed by '(variant of -)' it is considered to be an unconditioned stem alternant. The reference '(See -)' indicates that two forms are synonymous and partially identical morphologically.
2. Another inflectional element, somewhat different in type from the prefixes, is the reduplicative Habitual-Reciprocal. This occurs only with the non-singular person-numbers, and only in those inflected forms which show the basic initial consonant or the Indicative. The meaning is Reciprocal if the subject and object agree, and Habitual otherwise (with a potential ambiguity in third person). The affix appears as reduplication of the basic initial consonant or as the addition of a homorganic nasal preceding the Indicative. Thus, for example, /*lambas xil*/ *they hit each other* or *they habitually hit them*; /*rihhas xir*/ *we (inc.pl.) will hit each other*.
3. Morphologically, we can consider the third person to be present with these stems when no nominal object follows. In the case of stems with final /i/, such as /*hei*/ *to want, like* and /*tii*/ *to punch*, the shape /-uk/ of the second person suffix suggests underlying /-i/ for third person. In the case of stems with final /ə/, on the other hand, it is not clear what the reconstruction might be. Two stems of this kind are recorded: /*pə*/ *to carry (a person)* and /*sivə*/ *to kick*.
4. For the stems of various classes which may be inflected for third person object, internal reconstruction allows us to posit an earlier vowel in both the inflected and uninflected forms. Thus /*nakil atou*/ *I know the woman* is reconstructed as \**nakila atou*, and the final vowel of the verb root has been lost by a sound change  $V \rightarrow \emptyset / VC\_ \#$ . /*nakila*/ *I know her* is reconstructed as \**nakilaa* containing an object suffix, and the adjective vowels have been degeminated by a change  $V_1 \rightarrow \emptyset / V_1\_$ . The original shape of the object suffix was probably \*-e which underwent assimilation to the height of a preceding vowel before the degemination occurred. If the final vowel

of the verb root was /o/ or /u/, this vowel was fronted before the suffix; comparative evidence shows us, for example, that /nalone/ *I hear him* was originally \*nalone, so we must posit the intermediate stage \*nalonee. These various sound changes are found as synchronic (generative) morphophonemic rules in my paper on the morphophonemics of the inalienable nouns, though in certain cases their form can be revised in the light of the verbal phenomena discussed here.

5. For typographical reasons Ä was used for the capital version of æ.

## LEXEME CLASS ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Adj</i>	adjective	<i>Pron</i>	pronoun
<i>Adv</i>	adverb	<i>Rel</i>	relative
<i>Coord</i>	coordinative	<i>TrAdv</i>	transitive adverbial
<i>Interj</i>	interjection	<i>VAux</i>	auxiliary verb
<i>NClas</i>	classifying noun	<i>VEq</i>	equational verb
<i>NInal</i>	inalienable noun	<i>VInt</i>	intransitive verb
<i>N-tE</i>	noun derived with -tE suffix	<i>VTr+Ob</i>	obligatory-object transitive verb
<i>Num</i>	numeral	<i>VTr±Ob</i>	optional-object transitive verb
<i>PredAt</i>	predicate attribute	<i>VTrRef</i>	reflexive verb
<i>Prep</i>	preposition		

## KIN TERM ABBREVIATIONS

<i>B</i>	brother, brother's	<i>M</i>	mother, mother's
<i>D</i>	daughter, daughter's	<i>S</i>	son, son's
<i>F</i>	father, father's	<i>W</i>	wife, wife's
<i>H</i>	husband, husband's	<i>Z</i>	sister, sister's

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# SOUTHEAST AMBRYM DICTIONARY

## A

(Note: Verbs of paradigm-type (7) appear most often with initial /a/ but are entered under /xa.../).

a *NClas* edible thing. Cf. xaN1.

aah *Interj* (expression of dis-interest).

abahulu *N* a variety of taro.

abasE *NInal* beard. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>.

abutrabul *N* a variety of taro.

ah *N* a type of crab.

ahii<sub>1</sub>, hi *N* god.

ahii<sub>2</sub> *N* an unidentified tree with edible fruit.

ahii<sub>3</sub> *N* a part of the breadfruit tree. See vet-.

ahusal *N* sand crab. Cf. ah, sal<sub>2</sub>.

ai<sub>1</sub> *N* shell armband.

ai<sub>2</sub> *N* stinging nettle.

aiou *N* Purple Swamphen: Porphyrio p.

ak *Adj-Adv* this; here Cf. mak; tak.

akak *N* a variety of taro.

alivo *N* a variety of taro.

allenien *N* burning completely. Cf. xalleni.

am<sub>1</sub> *N* the first point incurred by a wrong choice in game of marbles (hur vak).

am<sub>2</sub> *N* needle (of plant, such as pine needle), hair. Cf. ambe, ammætE, amsaŋe, amuel, amule, amune, amune.

ambe *NInal* arm hair. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>, he<sub>1</sub>.

ameru *N* Triton: Charonia tritonis; shell trumpet.

ammætE *NInal* eyebrow. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>, mætE.

ammei *VTr+Ob* come, come to, arrive at. Irregular third person singular indicative bemei or mei; imperative ammei; otherwise -mmei. Cf. meien<sub>1</sub>.

amoluviei *N* a variety of taro.

amrim *N* Ambrym.

amsaŋe *NInal* pubic hair. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>.

amuel *N* pine needle. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>, eal.

amule *NInal* leg hair. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>, le.

amuloun *N* a variety of taro.

amuno *NInal* pubic hair. Uninflected form amune. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>, no.

amuno *NInal* beard. Uninflected form amune. Cf. am<sub>2</sub>.

analit *N* a variety of taro.

anameskuri *N* a point incurred in game of marbles; see vak.



anas<sub>1</sub> *N* *ibid.*

anas<sub>2</sub> *N* mullet.

anatin *N* a point incurred in game of marbles; see vak.

ane (alternative uninflected form of NC<sub>1</sub>as).

anien *N* food. *Cf.* xanien.

anviou *N* a variety of taro.

aŋ *N* fly (insect).

aŋelu *N* a type of large fly.  
*Cf.* aŋ.

aŋolumuis *N* a variety of yam.

aŋoveviei *N* a native dance.

aŋu *N* small branch. *Cf.* aŋutE,  
aŋumai.

aŋumai *N* live coral. *Cf.* aŋu,  
mai<sub>1</sub>.

aŋutE *N*-tE small branch. *Cf.*  
aŋu.

ap<sub>1</sub> *N* abalone, ear shell.

ap<sub>2</sub> *N* firewood (while in storage).  
See vatupaŋ.

apees *N* sow; female spider or scorpion shell (Iambis sp.; see vuuei).

arinu *N* a kind of climbing vine.

as<sub>1</sub> *N* a black biting ant.

as<sub>2</sub> *N* a common bush with edible leaves.

asE *N*inal testicles. *Cf.* asele,  
aseloh.

asei *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

asele *N*inal heel. *Cf.* asE, le.

aseloh *N* hernia. *Cf.* asE, loh<sub>2</sub>.

aseluh *N* a small lizard.

asou *N*inal spouse, wife, husband,  
*et al.*: man's W, BW, MMBD, MBDD,  
FZDD, ZSD; woman's H, HB, ZH,  
MMBS, MBDS, FMB, FZDS.

asu *N* rat.

asuram *N* second stage in string game; see tis.

atakkei *N* a variety of taro.

atau (variant of atou).

ateli *N* basket.

atin *N* point (in a game). *Cf.*  
atitin.

atitin *N* a point incurred in game of marbles; see vak.

atou, atau *N* woman. *Cf.* atuhos,  
atuli.

atu *N* Hermit Crab.

atuhos *N* attractive woman. *Cf.*  
atou, hos.

atuli *N* girl. *Cf.* atou.

au *N* rope.

avap *N* any small bat; swiftlet,  
any species of Collocalia;  
Vanikoro Swiftlet: C.  
vanikorensis (see tongton).

aveu *N*inal wing.

avonavon *N* tassel.

avu *N* grandparents, *et al.*: FF,  
FM, MF, MM, and their sib-  
lings; FZS, MBS; man's BW,  
MMBD, MBDD, FZDD, ZSD;  
woman's HB, ZH, MMBS, MBDS,  
FZDS. *Cf.* avukokon.

avukokon *N* parent-in-law, *et al.*:  
man's WM, WF, MBD, FZD,  
elder ZS, FMF, ZHF, ZHM,  
adult DD; woman's HF, HM,  
MBD, FZD, FMF, ZHF, ZHM, MFZ,  
adult BDD. *Cf.* avu.

axohis *N* banana laplap. *Cf.*  
axoviak, his<sub>2</sub>.

axoviak *N* taro laplap. *Cf.*  
axohis, viak.

axut *N* flea.

## B

(Note: words within initial /b/ not listed below are third person singular indicative forms of verbs with basic initial /v/ or /h/.)

balbat *N* a variety of yam.

barias *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

baue *N* *ibid*.

baVAŋ *VInt* (syllable /va/ present only when no prefix occurs) walk around, be idle, loiter, play.

bavaŋen *N* walking, idleness, loitering, playing.

baVArŋ (See baVAŋ).

bemue-en *N* shortsightedness.  
*Cf.* hemue.

bien *N* sea, ocean.

boVOŋ *VInt* (syllable /vo/ present only when no prefix occurs; irregular subjunctive vonboŋ; obligatory subject e<sub>1</sub>) forget.  
*Cf.* egonen.

*e.g.* eok bovoŋ. I forget; I've forgotten.

em taaboŋ-ti. You haven't forgotten.

en vonboŋ. He's about to forget.

boVOŋ-ni *VTr+Ob* to forget.

boVOroŋ (See boVOŋ).

burin *VInt* be thick.

burinen *N* thickness.

## D

(All words with initial /d/ are third person singular indicative forms of verbs with basic initial /t/.)

## E

e<sub>1</sub> *NInal* The meaning of this stem is unclear; it occurs as the obligatory subject of boVOŋ, hei<sub>1</sub>, and xat<sub>1</sub>.

e<sub>2</sub> *Prep-Coord* in, on, at, from; and, but. *Cf.* en<sub>1</sub>, ena.

ea *N* an unidentified plant.

eah<sub>1</sub> *N* lime (prepared from dead coral).

eah<sub>2</sub> *Adj* what kind of.

*E.g.* huie eah? What kind of fruit?

isit huie eah? What colour is the fruit?

eai *N* sunshine. See meteniai.

eal *N* pine. *Cf.* amuel.

eas *N* smoke; cigarette.

ebonen *N* forgetting, forgetfulness. *Cf.* e<sub>1</sub>, boVOŋ.

edu *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

edupahakul *N* a division of edu.

edupoal *N* *ibid*.

eh *Interj* (expression of disgust).

eheien *N* wanting, liking, love, need. *Cf.* e<sub>1</sub>, hei<sub>1</sub>.

ehuxE *NInal* bladder.

-ei *Nominalizing suffix*; see huie, huŋuei, utiei, vatiei, vaniei, *et al*.

ei- *Nominalizing prefix*; see derivatives below.

eihou *N* stick for carrying something heavy between two persons.

eikil *N* digging stick. *Cf.* ei-, kil.

eilep *PredAt* big.

eilih *N* fan. Cf. ei-, lilih.

eimal *N* vertical lines of the base of the single-line drawing (tis).

eimat *N* stick (usually of mangrove trunk) for removing hot stones from fire. Cf. ei-, matl.

eimes *N* professional killer, 'poison man'.

eipou *N* stick for carrying something over the shoulder. Cf. ei-, pouE.

eisin *N* clothing. Cf. ei-, sin

eitavaŋ *N* continuous line of the single-line drawing (tis). Cf. ei-, tavea, tavaŋitE.

eivave *N* horizontal lines of the base of the single-line drawing (tis).

eixoles *N* exchange, barter (of like things). Cf. ei-, xoX0les.

ekkatēn *N* anger. Cf. e<sub>1</sub>, xatl<sub>2</sub>.

-en *Nominalizing suffix or clitic.*

en *Adv* in it, on it, at it. Cf. e<sub>2</sub>.

ena (alternative uninflected form of e<sub>2</sub>).

eok<sub>1</sub> *N* yam laplap.

eok<sub>2</sub> *N* eighth stage of string game (tis).

eoktu *N* bivalve shell for scraping. Cf. eok<sub>1</sub>, tu<sub>1</sub>.

eou *N* bamboo.

evap *N* a variety of yam.

evamei *N* an unidentified plant.

eveti *N* moon; month.

evuet *N* dead banana leaf.

## G

(Note: Words with initial /g/ not listed below are third person singular indicative forms of verbs with basic initial /x/ or /h/.)

ganik (variant of ŋanik).

gannen *N* burning. Cf. xanl.

gonien *N* similarity. Cf. xoni.

## H

ha *VInt(2)-Adv* (/æ/ replaces /a/ in indicative and in subjunctive forms with initial /m/ or /v/) go, leave, depart; as in adverb ha immediately precedes verb stems and indicates that some distance must be covered prior to the realisation of action. Cf. he<sub>2</sub>, ha relinl.

E.g. nabæ. I'm going; I've gone.

ovæ xiak? Are you about to go now?

ha mupat. You (plural) will go sleep.

haen *N* going, departure.

hahau *N* long leaf.

hain *N* custom, way of life.

hal *N* center of coconut.

hale *Adv* outside.

halia *N* an uniden

halitE *N-tE* lowest and thickest branch(es) of tree.

hanu *N* person.

hanuhos *N* handsome man. Cf. hanu, hos.

hanutap *N* twenty. Cf. hanu, tap.

- ha relin<sub>I</sub> VTr+Ob leave, abandon.  
 has<sub>I</sub> VTr+Ob-Ref(2) hit, kill,  
     grind; commit suicide;  
     has eou weave bamboo (into walls)  
     has maŋ e - tattoo  
     has moten<sub>I</sub> rub clean  
     has tan-ni knock down.  
 hasien *N* hitting, killing,  
     grinding.  
 hat<sub>1</sub> *N* stone; money.  
 hat<sub>2</sub> *Num* four.  
 hateipin *Adj* five. See lim.  
 hau *Adj* very many.  
 havu- *NInal* (inflected for sex  
     of referent with singular  
     possessor) grandchild.  
     *E.g.* havuxuli my grandson(s);  
         havuxahin my grand-  
         daughter(s);  
         havuralu our (dual, inc.)  
         grandchild(ren).  
 hæli VTr+Ob(2) sharpen.  
 hælis VInt(2) paddle, row.  
 hælisen *N* paddling, rowing.  
 hælis-ni VTr+Ob(2) paddle, row.  
 hæsii VTrRef(2) be happy, glad.  
     *Cf.* siien.  
 he<sub>1</sub> *NInal* hand, forearm.  
 he<sub>2</sub> VTr+Ob(2) (nominal object  
     only) go to. *Cf.* ha.  
     *E.g.* nabe tim mavan I'm going  
         home.  
 he<sub>3</sub> VEq(2) be.  
 he<sub>4</sub> *NInal* (inflected for sex of  
     referent, always female, with  
     singular possessor) woman's  
     sister-in-law *et al.*: woman's  
     HZ, HBW, BW, MMBD, MBDD, FZDD,  
     FMZ.  
     *E.g.* heoxahin my (woman speak-  
         ing) sister-in-law.  
 hehe *N* an unidentified sandpiper.
- hehei-ni (See hei-ni).  
 hei<sub>1</sub> VTr+Ob(2) (obligatory  
     subject e<sub>1</sub>) want, need, like,  
     love. *Cf.* eheien.  
 hei<sub>2</sub> VTr+Ob(2) weave.  
 heilin<sub>I</sub> VTr+Ob(2) leave,  
     abandon. *Cf.* lin<sub>I</sub>.  
 heilin<sub>nien</sub> *N* leaving, abandoning.  
 hei-ni, hehei-ni VTr+Ob(2) shelve;  
     cross (one straight stretch  
     of eitavaŋ with another).  
 heinien *N* shelving; crossing.  
 helesok (variant of holesok).  
 hemue VInt(2) be shortsighted.  
     *Cf.* bemue-en.  
 het *N* top of yam tuber (the  
     part that is planted).  
 hi<sub>1</sub> *N* sea turtle.  
 hi<sub>2</sub> (variant of ahii<sub>1</sub>).  
 hil VInt(2) run fast.  
 hilbe *NInal* skin. *Cf.* hill<sub>2</sub>,  
     ve<sub>2</sub>.  
 hiles VInt(2) turn.  
 hilesen *N* turning.  
 hilhiles VInt(2) turn repeatedly.  
     *Cf.* hiles.  
 hilhilesen *N* repeated turning.  
 hill<sub>1</sub> VTr+Ob(4) dig. *Cf.* kil,  
     klkili.  
 hill<sub>2</sub> *NInal* hair, feather.  
 hilmætu *N* coconut husk. *Cf.*  
     hill<sub>2</sub>, mætu<sub>1</sub>.  
 hiltuto *N* chicken feather. *Cf.*  
     hill<sub>2</sub>, tuto.  
 hiluŋai *N* an unidentified small  
     bivalve mollusc.  
 hiluŋo *NInal* lip. Uninflected  
     form hiluŋe.

hilutE, hulutE *N-tE* skin, bark,  
husk, shell, peel. Cf. hill<sub>2</sub>.

himatu *PredAt* big.

hinne *NInal* (inflected for sex of  
possessor when singular) man's  
sister, *et al.*: man's Z, FBD,  
MZD, WBW, MMM.

*E.g.* hinoxoli my (man speak-  
ing) sister.

hipasI *VTr+Ob(2)* break (round  
thing) against something.  
Cf. -pasl.

hiræ *NInal* neck.

his<sub>1</sub> *N* bow and arrow.

his<sub>2</sub> *N* banana.

his<sub>3</sub> *N* ringworm.

hishismavul (See hismavul).

hishisu *VInt(2)* meet repeatedly.  
Cf. hisuu.

hishisuen *N* meeting repeatedly.

hisi *N* meat, flesh.

hisittan *N* mouth harp.

hismavul *N* Fantail Warbler:  
Gerygone flavolateralis.  
Cf. his<sub>1</sub>, mavul. See *syn.*  
hishismavul, lelivuron.

hismen *N* various shellfish of  
the family Olividae.

hisuen *N* meeting.

hisuu *VInt(2)* meet.

*E.g.* bisuu mini He meets with  
him; he meets him.

hit (see hitene).

hitene *VTr+Ob(2)* (clausal object  
only) say; want to, want one  
to. hit and hitene appear to  
be interchangeable when the  
object is a direct quote;  
otherwise hit is more fre-  
quent.

*E.g.* bitene 'mubasnou tu xiak'.  
He said 'You've already  
killed me now'.

siko bit 'naave inou-ti'  
The Lory said 'It won't  
be me'.

bit vapat He wants to  
sleep.

nabit ovæ (= nabit uha)  
I want you to go.

natehit ovæ I wanted you  
to go.

hiteni *VTr+Ob(2)* (clausal object  
only) say, tell.

*E.g.* biteni mini xa... He  
tells him that...

hitenien *N* saying, telling.

hitI *VTr+Ob(5)* pinch.

hitien *N* pinching.

hitu *N* star.

hive *VInt(2)* (in questions only;  
no negative forms) go where?

*E.g.* ovive? Where are you  
going to go?

taen bive? Where has  
your master gone?

hoa (See vethoa).

hoderan (See horan).

hohitE *N-tE* knot (in wood).

hohne *NInal* brain.

hohotas *N* an unidentified  
shore bird.

hohu *N* a yam dish, cut in pre-  
scribed pattern with portions  
of certain shape reserved  
for chief.

hohus *N* very young coconut,  
still without meat.

hokA *VTr+Ob(2)* open (box, book).

hokkoron *PredAt* small, a little.

hol *VInt(2)* dance.

holeal *N* small shellfish of  
various families: Mitridae,  
Marginellidae, *et al.*

holholvetei *N* Broad-billed Fly-catcher: *Myiagra caledonica*.

holien *N* dance.

hol-ni *VTr+Ob(2)* dance.

holesok, helesok *N* things (of one kind).

holu, hulu *Adj-Adv* many; very much, a lot.

homera *N* war club.

hometai *N* an eye disease.

honini *N* heart.

horamue *N* boy. *Cf.* tiramue.

horan, hoderan *N* an arboreal caterpillar.

horavtavi *PredAt* tan, beige.

hos *VInt(2)* good, attractive.

bos tan good enough; O.K.; you're welcome.

hosien *N* goodness.

hos-ni *VTr+Ob(2)* be good for.

*E.g.* obos-ni pia (= pia bos-ni xouk). Beer's good for you.

hotil *N* Silver-eared Honeyeater: *Lichmera incana*.

hovavue *N* an identified tree.

hovaxer *N* scarred or badly pock-marked legs (as from yaws).

hovea *N* orange.

hoveak *N* an unidentified tree.

hovus *N* wart.

hoxoxune *NInal* larynx.

hu *N* mountain.

huhale *NInal* knee. *Cf.* hu, he<sub>1</sub>, le.

huhe *NInal* elbow. *Cf.* hu, he<sub>1</sub>.

hui *VTr+Ob(5)* scrape.

huiei *N* fruit (of any kind). *Cf.* huitE, -ei.

huien *N* scraping.

huui *VInt(3)* blow.

huuien *N* blowing.

huimap *N* kidney.

huinap *PredAt* deep (of water).

huitan *N* deepest part of something; bottom (of sea). *Cf.* huinap, tan.

huite *N-tE* fruit (of a specific plant). *Cf.* huiei.

huui *N* a variety of yam.

huiven *N* bead(s).

\*huk *N* hook.

hulu (variant of holu).

hulutE (variant of hilutE).

hulutI *VTr+Ob(2)* peel. *Cf.* hilutE, hill<sub>2</sub>.

hulutien *N* peeling.

huno *N* immature Red-bellied Fruit Dove. See tamera lilum.

hughahau *N* Shining Cuckoo: *Chalcites lucidus*; the cuts of the yam dish hohu that are reserved for chief.

hugiei, hugei, huquiei *N* flower (of any plant). *Cf.* huquieE.

huquieE *N-tE* flower (of a specific plant).

huppasI *VTr+Ob(4-5)* smash with ease.

huppasien *N* smashing with ease.

hural *N* old garden in need of clearing and replanting.

huran *N* yam; year (period between planting and harvesting of yam).

hurI *VTr+Ob(4)* take, hold, pick up, deliver (baby), lead, marry.

hurien *N* taking, holding.

hurpon *VInt*(4) flower (?; of banana tree).

hurvuel *VInt*(4) flower (of the tree rau).

husi *N* White-bellied Honeyeater: *Guadalcanaria notabilis*.

husI *VTr+Ob*(3) squeeze juice or moisture from. *Cf.* pupus.

husien *N* squeezing juice.

husilI *VTr+Ob*(4) follow. *Cf.* usill, hustill.

husilien *N* following; prescription, what should be followed.

husicill *VTr+Ob*(4) follow habitually. *Cf.* husill.

husicilien *N* habitual following.

husmunai *N* grass. *Cf.* munaihat.

huso *N* a shellfish of the family Trochidae.

hustilI *VTr+Ob*(4) hide in wait for. *Cf.* husill, titill.

hustilien *N* hiding in wait for someone.

husupan *N* ashes. *Cf.* husutE, upan.

husutE *N-tE* ashes (of something specific). See vulmeas, husupan.

*E.g.* husutnou my ashes (when I've been cremated).

hut *VInt*(2) jump.

hutahut *VInt*(2) jump repeatedly.

hutahuten *N* repeated jumping.

huten *N* jumping.

huu *VTr+Ob*(2) open, unwrap, peel.

## I

iai *N* green lizard.

iaxa *Adv* so, then, for that reason;

midep iaxa mak? What's the matter?

iaxai (See igaxai).

iaxavi *Adv* where. *Cf.* xavi.

iaxor (variant of ioxor).

igak *Adv* here, hither. *Cf.* ak, igaxai.

igaxai, iaxai *Adv* here, hither. *Cf.* xai, igak, nanik.

igor (See igoxor).

igoxor, igor, ioxor, iaxoi *Adv* there (relatively far). *Cf.* xor; igaxai.

iih *Interj* (expression of disgust).

im, nim *N* house.

inau (variant of inou).

inou, inau *Pron* I.

iou *Interj* yes.

ioxor (See igoxor).

isE *NInal* name.

isite *N-tE* color.

## K

kaakau *VInt* walk. *Cf.* kau.

*E.g.* nakaakau nabe tim savan.  
I'm walking home.

kaakauen *N* walking.

kah *N* bud (of certain plants);

kah te-mæt eyeball.

kakah *N* laplap. *Cf.* axohis, axoviak, eok<sub>1</sub>, keitl.



kAkale *VTr+Ob* scratch.  
 kakalen *N* scratching.  
 kAkan-ni *VTr+Ob* steal.  
 kakannien *N* stealing, robbery.  
 kAkanoh *VInt* be emptyhanded, be without something.  
 kakanohen *N* emptyhandedness.  
 kAkanoh-ni *VTr+Ob* be without, not have, lack.  
 kAkas *VInt* be properly seasoned or sweetened.  
 kakasen<sub>1</sub> *N* being properly seasoned or sweetened.  
 kakasen<sub>2</sub> washing. *Cf.* kasl.  
 kAkat *VInt* burn, sting, itch.  
 kakaten *N* burning, stinging, itching.  
 kakkaten *N* affecting, making sick. *Cf.* xatl<sub>1</sub>.  
 kamanon, komanon *Adv* quickly.  
 kamuetI *VTr+Ob* find.  
 kamuetien *N* finding.  
 kan *VInt* be sharp.  
 kanen *N* sharpness.  
 kapis *VInt* be big and round.  
 kapisen *N* being big and round.  
 kare *N* a variety of yam with very small leaves.  
 kareatu (See atu).  
 karpisI *VTr+Ob* taste.  
 karpisien *N* tasting.  
 kas *VInt* fart.  
 kases *N* an unidentified tree.  
 kasI *VTr+Ob* wash. *Cf.* kakasen<sub>2</sub>.  
 katten *VInt* hurry.

kau *VInt* go to garden. *Cf.* kaakau.  
 kauen *N* going to the garden.  
 kava *N* kava.  
 kəau *VInt* be fat, get fat.  
 kəauen *N* fatness.  
 kea *VInt* crawl.  
 keaen *N* crawling.  
 kei *VInt* call. (See kesl).  
 keien *N* calling.  
 keiti *VTr+Ob* make into laplap.  
 keitien *N* making laplap.  
 kEkenai *VInt* hurry.  
 kEkereli *VInt* spin; be on.  
*Cf.* kelkeles-ni.  
*E.g.* huquiei mikkereli  
 xol-teep. The flowers  
 are on the table.  
 kekerelien, kekkerelien *N*  
 spinning, being on.  
 kEkesae *VInt* become lost.  
 kekesae-en *N* being lost.  
 kel *N* locust.  
 kelkelesen *N* spinning.  
 kelkeles-ni *VTr+Ob* spin. *Cf.* kEkereli.  
 kelmenamen *N* a kind of locust.  
*Cf.* kel.  
 kereitin *VTr+Ob* (clausal object only) hope, hope to. *Cf.* reitin.  
*E.g.* nakereitin nipusi. I  
 hope to see him.  
 kereitinen *N* hope.  
 kes-, -kes alone; recorded only in derivatives kestan, kestak, takes, vakkes.

kesI *VTr+Ob* call. Cf. kei.

kesien *N* calling.

keskes *VInt* make a series of  
velar clicks (calling animals).  
Cf. kesl.

keskesen *N* making clicks to call  
animals

keskes-ni *VTr+Ob* call (animals)  
by making velar clicks.

kestak *Adj-Adv* only, alone (in an  
exclusive sense). Cf. kes-,  
ak.

E.g. inou kestak (=inou nen  
kestak). Only me.

inou kestak napol. I  
alone work (at this  
particular job).

nan kestak. That's all.

da kestak. It's here by  
itself.

kestan *Adj-Adv* only, alone, in  
a distinct manner (implying  
comparison with others who are  
or should be involved in the  
same activity). Cf. kes-, tan;  
kestak.

E.g. inou kestan. I'm alone.

inou kestan napol. I work  
harder (or in some way  
differently from the  
others).

uha uhiteni mi-Esron kestan.  
Go tell it to Esron alone.

nada kestan e rum ak. I  
stay only in this room.

asu kestan da. The rat  
remains alone.

kettah *VInt* look.

kettahen *N* looking.

kettah-ni *VTr+Ob* look at.

kikei *VInt* sing. See sisien.

kikei-ni *VTr+Ob* sing.

kikili *VInt* dig in preparation for  
building. Cf. hill<sub>1</sub>, kil.

E.g. nakkili ni-nim. I'm digging  
holes for house posts.

lakkili e suhon tamu.

They were still digging  
on the beach.

kikilien, kikkilien *N* digging in  
preparation for building.

kil *VInt* dig. Cf. hill<sub>1</sub>, kikili.

kilA *VTr+Ob* know, understand, be  
acquainted with, know how to,  
be able to. Cf. saxaras,  
taalan-ni.

kilaen *N* knowing, knowledge,  
understanding, ability.

kilien *N* digging.

kipasI *VTr+Ob* break (round  
thing) in the hands. Cf.  
-pasl.

kippasen *N* breaking round  
things in the hands.

kippasI *VTr+Ob* break (more than  
one round thing) in the hands.  
Cf. -pasl, kipasi.

kital *VInt* penetrate, go  
through.

kittal *VInt* go through by  
force. Cf. kital.

kittalen *N* penetrating.

\*klæs *N* glass.

koh *N* Reef Heron: Demigretta  
sacra. See op, rovu.

kokei *VTr+Ob* hunt (pigs).

kokeien *N* hunting pigs.

kOkon *VInt* smell good.

kokonen (See konen).

kOkora *VInt* crow.

kokoraen *N* crowing.

kokoron (children's variant of  
hokkoroŋ).

\*kOkot (See kot).

\*kokoten *N* haircutting.

komanon (variant of kamanon).

kon *VInt* be sour.  
 konen, kokonen *N* sourness.  
 konkon *VInt* be very sour. *Cf.* kon.  
 konsaa *N* in game of marbles, first point and all subsequent points of the player who gets the first. See lauu.  
 kop-ni *VTr+Ob* throw (round thing). *Cf.* koven; kup-ni.  
 koptarel (See vetkoptarel).  
 kor<sub>1</sub> *Adv* first, last.  
   *E.g.* da kor. He's the last.  
       dutou kor. He's the last; he's the last-born.  
       diamu kor. He's the very first.  
 kor<sub>2</sub> *N* notch.  
 kor-ni *VTr+Ob* notch.  
 \*kotI, kOkotI *VTr+Ob* cut (hair).  
   *E.g.* nakotuk (=nakot hilum). I cut your hair.  
 koutE *N-tE* coconut meat.  
 koven *N* throwing round things. *Cf.* kop-ni.  
 kuhI *TrAdv* carefully.  
   *E.g.* nagur kuh polien. I've taken a good job.  
       nagur kuhuk (=nagur kuh xouk). I brought you carefully.  
       napol kuhi-ni neta nan. I'll make the thing carefully.  
 kuiap *N* an unidentified tree with edible fruit.  
 \*kuken *N* cooking.  
 \*kuk-ni *VTr+Ob* cook.  
 kUkutaxolE (See kutaxolE).

kukutaxolen *N* covering.  
 kuli, kulii *N* dog.  
 kumal *N* sweet potato.  
 kuote *PredAt* dignified, calm, sober.  
 kup-ni *VTr+Ob* throw (long thing). *Cf.* kuven; kop-ni.  
 kusah *VInt* spit.  
 kusahen *N* spitting.  
 kushe *NInal* fingernail. *Cf.* he<sub>1</sub>, kusle.  
 kuslagiei *N* a part of the flower of the tree ahii<sub>2</sub>.  
 kusle *NInal* toenail. *Cf.* le, kushe.  
 kutaxolE, kUkutaxolE *VTr+Ob* cover. *Cf.* xolE.  
 kuven *N* throwing (long things). *Cf.* kup-ni.  
 kuvuni *VTr+Ob* throw... over something; cover.  
 kuvunien *N* throwing something over something else.  
 L  
 lahiähI *VTr+Ob* take (an undetermined number of things). *Cf.* lähI.  
 lahiähien *N* taking things.  
 lAlaxatI *VTr+Ob* look after continually. *Cf.* laxatI.  
 lalaxatien *N* looking after continually.  
 lalei *VInt* wake up. See syn. tanea.  
 laleien *N* waking.  
 lan<sub>1</sub> *VInt* dawn.  
   *E.g.* ut milan It's dawning.

- lan<sub>2</sub> *VInt* learn, study.
- lanen<sub>1</sub> *N* (preceded by ut<sub>1</sub>) dawn.
- lanen<sub>2</sub> *N* learning.
- lan-ni *VTr+Ob* learn.
- laŋ *VInt* look, search.  
     laŋ vesl look around for.  
     laŋ vesien looking around for.
- laŋA *VTr+Ob* open (bottle, book).
- laŋaen *N* opening.
- laŋen *N* search, searching.
- laŋ-ni *VTr+Ob* look for.
- laŋnien *N* search, searching.
- las *VInt* cut brush, clear land.
- lasen *N* clearing land.
- latI *VTr+Ob* pick up (implying uncovering, revealing something underneath).
- latien *N* picking up.
- lau *VInt* hunt birds.
- lauen *N* hunting birds.
- lau-ni *VTr+Ob* hunt (birds).
- lauu *N* in game of marbles, points of the player who does not get the first point.  
     See konsaa.
- lavavuei *N* an unidentified small tree.
- lavuap *VInt* swell, become swollen.  
     See syn. tētep.
- lavuaven *N* swelling.
- laxatI *VTr+Ob* watch, look after.
- læh *VInt* flow.
- læhI *VTr+Ob* take, carry (in the hands or arms), deliver (a baby).  
     læh sesæh cut thin lengthwise slices of breadfruit or sweet potato.
- læhien<sub>1</sub> *N* flowing.
- læhien<sub>2</sub> *N* taking in the hands or arms.
- lælæhen *N* pulling. Cf. lihii.
- le *NInal* leg.
- leaŋ *N* red earth.
- lehitI *VTr+Ob* leave (inanimate object).
- leimætu *N* a native dance.
- lel<sub>1</sub> *VInt* die. See syn. mæt.
- lel<sub>2</sub> *N-VInt* rubbish; lie about.  
     E.g. so lel (=liŋ lel) make a mess, litter, leave things lying around.  
     his milel. Bananas are left strewn around.
- lele<sub>1</sub> *N* a native dance.
- lele<sub>2</sub> *VInt* have a premonition.
- lele-en *N* having premonition, intuition.
- lelen *N* death.
- lelenI *TrAdv* scattering, around, about.  
     E.g. misoelen his. He scatters bananas around.
- lele-ni *VTr+Ob* have a premonition of  
     E.g. di olele-ni nəh? What do you have a premonition of?
- lelep *N* mud.
- lelivuroŋ *N* Fantail Warbler: *Gerygone flavolateralis*. See syn. hismavul, hishismavul.
- lemunai *N* a native dance.
- leŋ *N* a native dance.
- lerum *N* whale.
- lerumai *N* vein.
- lerumrum (Paama loanword; see lerum).

letaalaŋ-ni *VTr+Ob* not recognize.  
Cf. taalaŋ-ni.

letpisI *VTr+Ob* examine, test.

lettum *N* mirror.

li *Adv* alas. li indicates sorrow,  
but is not usually translatable;  
see liŋa.

E.g. vahit namit namə li. I'd  
like to go.

ladiŋa li Epi. They stayed  
(those who died) on Epi.

obos li ammei tutou-ninou  
ralolas. Please come help  
me clear land.

liei *N* wood, stick, board. Cf.  
litE.

lietne *Ninal* liver.

lietvovoxE *Ninal* lung. Cf. lietne.

lih *N* pig's tusk bracelet.

lihen (See lilihen).

lihhuui *N* an unidentified bivalve  
mollusc.

lihI *VTr+Ob* plant. Cf. lihen,  
lilihen.

lihii *VTr+Ob* pull. Cf. lələhen.

lii *VInt* be higher, taller.

lili *N* operculum of Green Snail  
(veik).

lilihen *N* planting. Cf. lihi.

lilihI *VTr+Ob-Ref* fan. Cf. eilih.

liligen *N* placing, putting, leaving.  
Cf. liŋl.

lilisen (See lisen).

lilitou *N* a ground-dwelling spider.

lilum *N* moss, a-gae; young Red-  
bellied Fruit dove (*syn.* huno).

lim *Num* five. See hateipin.

liŋa *Adv* The meaning and function  
of this form are not clear; it  
appears to contain li, but liŋa is  
always bounded by clauses. Compare

the first example for li  
with the following.

E.g. vahit namit namə liŋa  
vo mak mani napol. I'd  
like to go; that way I  
might be able to work.

lipue *Pred At* skinny.

lis *VInt* move over.

E.g. lis xai! Get out of  
there!

lisen, lilisen *N* moving over.

litE *N-tE* root; large branch.

loh<sub>1</sub> *VInt* run.

loh<sub>2</sub> *VInt* flower (of chestnut  
tree (?), see map).

lohen *N* running.

loŋE *VTr+Ob* hear; feel.

olone midep? How are you?

nalone misa. I feel bad; I'm  
sad; I'm sorry.

long-en *N* hearing, feeling.

longeŋ *VInt* hear, listen.  
Cf. longe.

longeŋen *N* listening.

longeŋ-ni *VTr+Ob* listen to.

longlonien (See long-en).

losili *VTr+Ob* examine, inspect.

lout *VInt* make magic.

lu<sub>1</sub> *Num* two.

lu<sub>2</sub> *VInt* miss (projectile  
acting).

luavon *N* Fan-tailed Cuckoo:  
*Cacomantis pyrrhophanus*.  
See *syn.* popoxatai.

luen *N* missing.

luhO *Ninal* tooth.

luholu<sub>1</sub> *N* Southern Shrikebill:  
*Clytorhynchus pacycephaloides*.

luholu<sub>2</sub> *N* boar (not castrated).

See ueili, vuuei.

luholu somate *N* scorpion.

lulu *N* a yam with very small leaves.

lulu *VInt* vomit.

lulu *N* vomiting.

lulu-ni *VTr+Ob* vomit up.

lumot *N* grief; mourning.

E.g. lumot basnou. I'm grieving.

luvoluvos asu *N* an unidentified small plant.

luvosen *N* lying, deceit.

luvosI *VTr+Ob* lie, prevaricate; lie to.

## M

ma<sub>1</sub> *Adv* then, next, in that case.

ma<sub>2</sub> *NClas* drinkable thing, thing associated with sleeping.

E.g. nabe nim mavan. I'm going to my house.

mu mam! Drink yours!

mabur *N* a small plant with edible leaves.

mael *N* a common man's name.

\*mago *N* mango.

mahes *N* afternoon (approx. 2 p.m. until dark).

bos mahes. Good afternoon.

mahoe *VInt* break (of long things). See hipasI, kipasI.

mahul *N* albino.

mahulon *VInt* big, long, tall. See himatu, eilep, teviei.

mahulon *N* tallness, length.

mai<sub>1</sub> *N* reef.

mai<sub>2</sub> *N* Green-winged Ground Pigeon: *Chalcophaps indica*.

\*maina *N* Mynah: *Acridotheres tristis*.

mainen *N* ironing, pressing.

main-ni *VTr+Ob* iron, press.

maitiei *N* Green-winged Ground Pigeon with white shoulder patch. Cf. mai<sub>2</sub>.

maixuxus *N* Green-winged Ground Pigeon that hides when man approaches. Cf. mai<sub>2</sub>, xus.

mak *VInt* be thus, be like this, be the same. This verb is rarely translatable as such. Cf. ak.

E.g. vom bos mak. You really smell good.

nipol mak. I must work. (*lit.* I will work, it is thus).

opol-ni imak. You'll do it this way.

mak tan. It's the same.

midep iaxa mak? What's the matter?

vo mak. Like this, in this manner.

makka *VInt* bend very low (branches of talep or tavu) from weight of fruit.

makon *N* black Flying Fox or Fruit Bat. See vares.

mal *N* nut.

malele *N* divider, boundary marker.

malen *N* uprooting.

malhos *N* boy. See horamue.

malI *VTr+Ob* uproot.

mamah *N* cloud.

mamal (variant of momal).

mani (contraction of maxani).

\*maniok *N* manioc.

mane (alternative uninflected form of  $ma_2$  *NCLas*).

manne *NInal* (inflected for sex of referent, always male, with singular possessor) woman's brother, *et al.*: woman's B, FBS, MZS, HZH.

*E.g.* manneli her brother.

maŋ *N* tattoo.

has maŋ e - to tattoo.

map *N* chestnut (?)

mapo *VInt* break (of limb, from weight of fruit).

mapoen, mappoen *N* breaking from weight of fruit.

marakon *N* a shellfish of the family Turbinidae.

maŋ *NInal* back.

mas *VInt* hairless.

*E.g.* vatok mas. I'm bald  
(*lit.* my head is hairless).

masan-ni *VTr+Ob* flavor, season.

masau *N* evening star. *Cf.*  
masxaxa.

mase *NInal* male cross cousin,  
*et al.*: FZS, MBS, ZDH; woman's DH. Note the partial semantic overlap with avu.

masen *N* hairlessness.

masiaiau *N* a variety of yam.

masiŋ *N* love potion (a powder blown in face of reluctant girl).

masute *N-tE* crotch of tree.

masxaxa *N* shooting star. *Cf.*  
masau,  $xa_2$ .

mat *N* Maat (or Mele-Maat)  
village, Efate; Maat Village,  
Ambrym.

matI *VTr+Ob* take (hot stones)  
from fire. *Cf.* eimat.

matien *N* taking hot stones  
from fire.

matihol *N* vegetables.

matilo *N* man's nephew or niece,  
*et al.*: man's ZS, ZD, WBS,  
WBD, FFZD, MBSW, FZSW.

matimal *N* village.

matiri *N* first stage in string  
game; see tis.

matu *VInt* grow up, mature, age.

matuen *N* growing up.

mavul *VInt* break (of long  
things). *Cf.* mahoe, vull.

mavulen *N* breaking (of long  
things).

mavusvalu *N* albatross.

maxani, mani *VInt* suddenly.

*E.g.* maxani e us vamus. It's  
suddenly about to rain.

mæakue *N* morning.

bos mæakue. Good morning.

mæh *Adv* all the time.

mæhhin *VInt* be thin (of  
fabrics).

mæhhinen *N* thinness (of fabrics).

mæhis *N* fine ashes.

mæi *N* hunger.

*E.g.* mæi gatnou. I'm hungry  
(*lit.* hunger affects  
me).

mæin *VInt* consent.

mæi-ni *VTr+Ob* permit. *Cf.*  
mæin.

*E.g.* namæi-ni moletin ak  
ia his. I let this  
man eat a banana.

mæinien *N* permitting, consent,  
permission.



mæl *N* an unidentified fruit.  
 mæle *VInt* be lacking salt.  
 mæle-en *N* lacking salt.  
 mælmæl *N* Chambered Nautilus.  
 māmæas *VInt* be blue, green.  
 māmæasen *N* blueness, greenness.  
 māmæi *VInt* yawn.  
 māmæien *N* yawning.  
 māmæl *VInt* tire, be tired.  
 māmælen *N* tiredness.  
 māmæse *VInt* be clean.  
 māmæsi *VTr+Ob* thank.  
 māmæsien *N* thanking.  
 māmæi *VInt* urinate. See memees.  
 māmæien *N* urinating.  
 māmmon *N* a shellfish of the family Patellidae (Limpets).  
 mæru *VInt* fall down, collapse (of structures).  
 mæruen *N* collapsing.  
 mæse *VInt* ready.  
 mæse-en *N* readiness.  
 mæsoh *N* cold; malaria.  
 mæsse *N* man's brother-in-law, *et al.*: man's WB, BWB, ZH, MMBS, MBDS, FZDS, ZSS, WFF, ZHFF.  
 mæt *VInt* die.  
 mætE *NInal* eye.  
 mæteiho *N* green coconut. *Cf.* mætu<sub>1</sub>, hohus; ni<sub>1</sub>.  
 mæteipilii *N* brown coconut. *Cf.* mætu<sub>1</sub>, pili.  
 mæten *N* dying, death.  
 mæthoep *N* large coconut. *Cf.* mætu<sub>1</sub>.

mætlevin *N* an unidentified fish.  
 mætsatin *N* immature coconut: a stage between hohus and ni. *Cf.* mætu<sub>1</sub>, and see saŋat.  
 mætu<sub>1</sub> *N* ripe coconut.  
 mætu<sub>2</sub> *PredAt* right; correct.  
 mætu-ni *TrAdv* correctly.  
 mætxat *VInt* starve. *Cf.* mæt.  
 mætxaten *N* starvation.  
 me *NInal* tongue.  
 mea *VInt* rise; get up. *Cf.* tammea.  
 meaen *N* rising.  
 meah *N* twin(s).  
 mean *VInt* yellow.  
 meanen *N* yellowing, yellowness.  
 meap *N* a kind of reef crab.  
 meas<sub>1</sub> tuber.  
 meas<sub>2</sub> *VInt* be heavy; be pregnant.  
 measen *N* heaviness; pregnancy.  
 medisa *N* Peregrine Falcon: *Falco peregrinus*; rugby player. See *syn.* vesik.  
 meemei *VInt* reddish-brown.  
 meemeien *N* reddish-brownness.  
 \*meet *N* friend.  
 mei<sub>1</sub> alternative third person singular indicative of ammei.  
 mei<sub>2</sub> *VTr+Ob* feed (an infant).  
 meien<sub>1</sub> *N* coming, arrival.  
 meien<sub>2</sub> *N* feeding infants.  
 \*melen *N* melon.  
 melenien *N* day (twenty-four hour period).  
 melenien uahes? What time is it?

meles *N* person with yaws.

meletelit *N* tumor.

melit *N* eel.

melkabak *PredAt* spotted black and white (of pigs). See *syn. vohvetei*.

mellor *VInt* rise very high.

meloxoluk *VInt* black.

meloxoluk-ni *VTr+Ob* blacken.

meloxoluxen *N* blackness.

mem *VInt* shine (of moon).

*E.g.* ut mem. The moon is shining.

memætu *N* old man.

mEemesI *VTr+Ob-Ref* urinate on. See mæmei.

memeesien *N* urination on something.

memen *N* moonlight.

mEmer *VInt* be wet.

memeren *N* wetness.

mEmerou *VInt* soft, easy. *Cf.* merou.

memerouen *N* softness; ease.

memes *N* a variety of breadfruit.

-men, men-, -mæn bird. *Cf.* tumen and numerous other compounds.

men<sub>1</sub> *VInt* laugh.

men<sub>2</sub> *VInt* ripen, be ripe.

menen<sub>1</sub> laughing, laughter.

menen<sub>2</sub> ripening, ripeness.

menlep *N* an unidentified bird. *Cf.* men-.

menri *N* Scarlet Robin: Petroica multicolor. *Cf.* men-.

menvatiali *N* Buff-bellied Flycatcher: Neolalage banksiana. *Cf.* men-.

mer *N* knuckle, joint.

mera *VInt* bleed. *Cf.* re<sub>2</sub>.

meraen *N* bleeding.

merakon *N* an unidentified shellfish.

meral *N* an unidentified bush.

merales *N* dead coral. See anumai.

merah *VInt* break or crumble from burning.

merhe *NInal* upper arm. *Cf.* mer, he<sub>1</sub>.

merir<sub>1</sub> *VInt* sink.

merir<sub>2</sub> *VInt* cold.

*E.g.* ut merir. It's cold.

meriren<sub>1</sub> *N* sinking.

meriren<sub>2</sub> *N* coldness.

meris *N* single-pointed spear. See vatiqah, vulupol.

merle *NInal* thigh. *Cf.* mer, le.

merou *VInt* calm, quiet, peaceful, sober.

merrah *VInt* crumble completely from burning. *Cf.* merah.

\*mersin *N* medicine.

merute *N-tE* cut section of log or anything long.

mesal *N* space above the sea.

*E.g.* labælis-ni ma labe mesal. They paddle it and go out to sea.

mesavuol *N* space above the sea with no land in sight. *Cf.* mesal.

mesah *VInt* tear. See telpasl.

mesahen *N* tearing.

mesal *VInt* split. See selpasl.

mesalen *N* splitting.

meseau *N* fish. See pəŋor.

mesei *VInt* get sick, be sick.  
Cf. meseien, mesien.

meseien *N* getting sick.

mesep *VInt* hiccough.

mesepen *N* hiccoughing.

meses *VInt* cook, become cooked.  
See kuk-ni.

mesesen *N* cooking, being cooked.

mesien *N* sickness, disease.  
Cf. mesei.

mesiq *N* an unidentified shellfish.

metalū *N* white man.

metau *VInt* be cowardly, timid.  
Cf. tametauen.

meteniai *N* sun (planet); sea urchin. See eai.

metuo *Ninal* uncle, *et al.*: MB, FZH, MBSS, FZSS; man's ZDS.  
See *syn.* pap.

meu *N* Incubator Bird, Megapode: *Megapodius freycinet*.

meul *VInt* live, be alive, grow.

meulen *N* growing, growth.

meulien, meulienen *N* living, life.

meun *VInt* shout.

meun-ni *VTr±Ob* shout to.

miəh *VInt* white, light.

miəhen *N* whiteness, lightness.

miəh-ni *VTr±Ob* whiten.

mina (alternative uninflected form of miNI).

miNI *Prep* for, to.

\*mo *VInt* be more.

moil (variant of muel).

moletin *N* person, man. Cf. titamol.

moluol *N* a shellfish of the family Neritidae.

momal, mama! *VInt* straight.

momatu *N* an unidentified bivalve mollusc. Cf. tu<sub>1</sub>.

mOmoli *VInt* smooth.

momolien *N* smoothness.

mOmoti *VInt* straight and smooth.  
See momal, mOmoli.

momousi *N* a shellfish of the family Terebridae.

moru *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

mot *VInt* fall.

moten *N* falling.

motenI *VTr+Ob* clean.

motenien *N* cleaning.

moup *N* gecko.

mu<sub>1</sub> *Coord* or.

mu<sub>2</sub> *Adv* (never sentence-final) first. Cf. timu, tiamu.

E.g. bos mak mu xa-rihusili.  
We'd better follow him.

inou mu xa-nakil moletin xa-pol ak. I'm the first to know the man who works here.

inou nakil moletin mu xa-pol ak. (Same translation as preceding if verb is indicative; if it is subjunctive: I'll find out right now what man is working here.).

inou napol mu di e xouk suŋ. I'll work first, and you afterwards.

kettəh mu vahe marum.  
First look at your back.

mue (hesitation form).

mueaxue *N* a light-coloured cowrie.  
 muel, moil *PredAt* left; wrong.  
 muel-ni *TrAdv* wrong.  
 muerau *N* Long-tailed Triller:  
     Lalage leucopyga.  
 muis *VInt* cry.  
 muisen *N* crying.  
 muite *PredAt* elder. See tesite.  
 mulmulis (variant of vulvulis).  
 mUmuli *VInt* be round.  
 mUmun *VInt* drink. Cf. muNI.  
 mumunen *N* drinking; drunkenness.  
 mumunoi *N* dragonfly. Cf.  
     mUmun, oei.  
 mUmuu *VInt* be dirty. See  
     purunl.  
 mumuuen *N* dirtiness.  
 mun *Adv-Adj* again, also, too,  
     still. Cf. timun.  
 munaihat *N* a kind of wild grass.  
     Cf. husmunai.  
 muNI *VTr+Ob* drink. Cf. mUmun.  
 munien *N* drink.  
 mur *N* fat, grease.  
 mure *VInt* be shortened, cut off.  
 murihinI *VTr+Ob* win (in game).  
 mus *VInt* rain. Cf. us.  
     E.g. us mus. It's raining  
         (lit. the rain's raining).  
 musau *VInt* appear (of the sun).  
     Cf. nesau.  
 musauen *N* appearance of the sun.  
 musen *N* raining.  
 muttut *VInt* hum.  
 muttut-ni *VTr+Ob* hum.

## N

na *NClas-Prep* thing (of any  
 kind, but exclusive of the  
 categories designated by the  
 other *NClas* ma, sa, a); for.  
 This root is also used as a  
 hesitation form.  
 naha *N* what. In clause-final  
 position, where it is the  
 object of a verb or preposi-  
 tion, this stem has the form  
 nəh, q.v.  
 E.g. naha xai? What's that?  
     naha xa di lbaiteni?  
     What are they talking  
     about?  
 nahak (contraction of naha, ak)  
     what's this?  
 nahei, nehei *Adv* maybe. See  
     xos.  
 E.g. nahei vonien mun. Maybe  
     again at night.  
 nahou *N* garden. Cf. nohouhu.  
 nana (vocative of nine and tene).  
 nananoh *Adv* yesterday.  
 nane (alternative uninflected  
     form of na).  
 nantarero *N* an unidentified  
     bird.  
 natE *NInal* (inflected for sex  
 of referent with singular  
 possessor) son, daughter,  
 child, et al: man's S, D, BS,  
 BD, WZS, WZD, SSS, SSD;  
 woman's S, D, ZS, ZD, HBS,  
 HBD, SSS, SSD.  
 natematu *PredAt* old (of  
     things).  
 nəh (clause-final form of naha).  
 E.g. osakni nəh? What are  
     you doing?  
     ve nəh? What for? Why?  
     di olele-ni nəh? What  
     do you have a premoni-  
     tion of?

nehei (variant of nahei).

nel *N* an unidentified tree. See  
*syn. valei*.

nemel *N* meeting house.

nen *N-Adj* same thing; same.

*E.g.* nen ak. This same thing.

moletin nen xil mun ak.  
These same men.

miso asu de eal nen. He  
put the rat on that very  
pine tree.

goni ŋan nen xa... In the  
same way that...

nEnemI *VTr+Ob* think, remember.  
*Cf.* nenemien, redemien.

nenemien *N* thinking, thought,  
remembering.

nesau *Adv* on top, up. *Cf.* musau;  
netan.

neta *N* thing, something, nothing  
(with negative verb).

*E.g.* eok-ti taavei-ti neta. I  
don't want anything.

neta xa... that which...

netahu *VInt* be new.

netahuen *N* newness.

netaio *N* sacred place.

netak *N* this thing, this one.  
*Cf.* neta, ak; *syn.* ŋanik.

netan *Adv* below. *Cf.* nesau.

nettale *N* those things.

ni<sub>1</sub> *N* green coconut.

ni<sub>2</sub> *Prep* with, by means of; for,  
to acquire; than, comparing.

*E.g.* pol ni-hen. He works with  
his hands.

ha ni-oei! Go for water!

nasisuk ni-oei. I ask you  
for water.

xi iaxa be himætu ni-xalu.  
He is the bigger of the two.

-ni *Transitivizing clitic*.

nim (variant of im).

nin *N* dew.

nine *NInal* mother, aunt, *et al.*:  
M, MZ, MBSD, FZSD, BSW; man's  
FFM, ZDD, SW; woman's FBW.  
*Vocative* nana.

nini *NInal* spirit, soul, ghost,  
shadow, image, reflexion.  
*Third plural* ninii.

\*niusnen *N* news.

no (variant of o<sub>2</sub>).

nohou (variant of nahou).

nohouhu *N* new garden. *Cf.*  
nahou.

nousap *N* a long time; a long  
time ago.

nout *N* somewhere, anywhere;  
elsewhere.

nu<sub>1</sub> *N* nest.

nu<sub>2</sub> *VInt* dive; set (of sun).

num *N* an unidentified plant.

## N

ŋai *N* a tree with edible fruit.

ŋan, ŋen *N-Adv* purpose, matter,  
affair, thing, manner; some;  
otherwise.

*E.g.* te ŋan ak. For this  
purpose.

goni ŋan nen xa... in  
the same way that...

goni ŋan ak in this way.

uxa 'ŋan ak te masiŋ'.  
You'll say 'This is for  
a love potion'.

mikarpis ŋan ti sap. He  
tasted another one.

atou ŋan xil some of  
the women.

biteni mi ɲan xil. He told  
it to some of them.

napol kuhi-ni neta ɲan. I'll  
make this thing carefully.

nahasi ɲan. Otherwise he  
might kill him.

ɲanik, ganik *N* this thing, this  
one. See *syn. netak*.

ɲaɲarou *VInt* be rough.

ɲaɲarouen *N* roughness.

ɲasen *Adj-Adv* each, every;  
completely.

*E.g.* moletin xil ɲasen every  
person.

xilvus bos ɲasen. Every-  
thing's O.K.

nalaɲ vesi ut ɲasen. I  
look for him everywhere.

ɲasI *VTr+Ob* bite, chew, sting.

ɲasien *N* biting, chewing, stinging.

ɲeɲel *VInt* rest.

ɲeɲelen *N* resting, rest.

ɲen (variant of ɲan).

## 0

o<sub>1</sub> *Interj* Oh!

o<sub>2</sub> no *NInal* penis.

oali *N* an unidentified bush with  
long dark red leaves.

oei *N* water (fresh). See *tas*.

oeisal *N* river.

ohia *N* an unidentified edible  
tuber.

\*onet *N* hornet.

onin *N* sensitive grass. See  
*syn. papat*.

op *N* Reef Heron: *Demigretta sacra*.  
See *koh, rovu, taliue*.

opitE *N-te* navel.

oreai *N* Australian Goshawk:  
*Accipiter fasciatus*. This  
identification is tentative;  
*Accipiter f.* is not reported  
for Ambrym in the ornithol-  
ogical literature.

osali (variant of *xosali*).

osil *N* coconut frond.

oum *N* land crab.

oval *N* a climbing vine with  
large leaves.

ovus (See *vetovus*).

## P

\*painap *N* pineapple.

pan *N* Golden Whistler: *Pachy-  
cephala pectoralis*. Cf.  
*papan; poneai, ponovut*.

paɲas *VInt* hurt, ache, be  
sore.

paɲasen *N* pain, soreness.

pap *N* uncle *et al.*; see *syn.*  
*metuo*.

pApan *VInt* whistle.

papanen *N* whistling.

papan-ni *VTr+Ob* whistle.

papat *N* sensitive grass. Cf.  
*pat; onin*.

-pasI, -ppasI break. Root in  
derived verb stems: *hipasI,  
huppasI, kipasI, kippasI,  
selpasI, tapasI, tappasI,  
telpasI, pelpasI, tipasI,  
tupasI*.

pat *VInt* sleep; reside.

*E.g.* opat xavi? Where do  
you live? Where are  
you staying?

paten *N* sleeping.

pavoxin *N* an unidentified plant with edible fruit (squash?)

pæ *VTr+Ob* carry (a person).

pæen *N* carrying a person.

\*pæk *N* bag, sack.

pæmmel *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

pəŋor *VInt* fish. See meseau.

pəŋoren *N* fishing.

pĀpæn *VInt* shoot bow and arrow. See tup.

pəpænen *N* shooting with bow and arrow.

pĀpəŋ *VInt* light-coloured, blond (of hair).

E.g. hilin pəpəŋ. He is blond (*lit.* his hair is blond).

pəpænen *N* blondness.

pəsI *VTr+Ob* bear, give birth to.

E.g. latpəsnou I was born.

pəsien *N* giving birth.

pe *Prep* under.

pehosaŋat *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

\*peinen *N* painting.

\*pein-ni *VTr+Ob* paint.

pelei *TrAdv-Adv* properly, carefully; really.

E.g. naso pelei. I put it in its proper place.

napus pelei nim. I look carefully at the house.

taavos pelei-ti. It's really not good.

im pelei navan. The house is really mine.

pelpasI *VTr+Ob* step on (round thing). Cf. -pasI, pelvull.

pelpasien *N* stepping on round things.

pelvull *VTr+Ob* step on (long thing). Cf. pelpasI, vull.

pelvulien *N* stepping on long things.

pen, pena (alternative unflected forms of pe).

penapu *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

pesahii *VInt* flower (of bread-fruit). Cf. ahii<sub>3</sub>.

\*pesin *N* basin, bowl.

pesum *N* sixth stage in string game. See tis.

\*pet *N* bed.

\*petel *N* Bethel, a Southeast Ambrym village.

\*pia *N* beer.

pil *VInt* cough.

pilen *N* coughing.

pili, plipili *VInt* be red, brown.

pilien, pipilien *N* redness.

pili-ni *VTr+Ob* redden.

pima *N* red pepper, Capsicum.

piniai *N* midday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

bos piniai. Good morning, Good afternoon (as the case may be).

piŋ *VInt* flower. See hunuiei, hunuite.

pipei *N* cockroach.

pIpili (see pili).

pipilien (see pilien).

pIpin *VInt* suffice, be enough.

pipinen *N* sufficiency.



pisenI *VTr+Ob* show, teach. Cf.  
pispisl.

E.g. opisen minou itep nisəh  
puitəh. You show me  
how to open the door.

opisen xulen minou. You  
teach me how to swim.

pisenien *N* showing, teaching,  
instruction.

pisi *VTr+Ob* draw (eitavan, *q.v.*).

pispisi *VTr+Ob* teach.

E.g. opispi mini-ti vahei.  
You're teaching her to  
weave.

pispisien *N* teaching.

pisvuvu *N* the part of eitavan  
that goes to a new node of  
the base of the line drawing.  
See tis.

poal *N* river bed.

pol<sub>1</sub> *VInt* work.

pol<sub>2</sub> *VInt* be full. See sei.

polien *N* work, working.

pol-ni *VTr+Ob* make, build; cause.

E.g. pol-ni nim. He's building  
a house.

napol-ni xouk obəsiuk. I  
make you happy.

poluen *N* fullness.

poneai *N* male Golden Whistler.  
See pan, ponovut.

ponovut *N* female Golden Whistler.  
See pan, poneai.

pOpo *VInt* be wrinkled (of skin).

popoxatai *N* Long-tailed Cuckoo:  
Cacomantis pyrrhophanus. See  
*syn.* luavon.

popuerohai *N* a variety of yam.

poratI *VTr+Ob* lift, raise.

poratien *N* lifting, raising.

\*pos<sub>1</sub> *N* post.

pos<sub>2</sub> *VInt* pay. See xalE<sub>2</sub>,  
pos-ni.

posen *N* paying.

pos-ni *VTr+Ob* sell.

pouE *VTr+Ob* carry.

pouen *N* carrying.

povah *N* kitchen.

pueou *VInt* climb. See *syn.*  
puei.

pueouen *N* climbing.

puepue-en *N* copulating. Cf.  
pui.

puepueou *VInt* climb repeatedly;  
be shaped like a flight of  
stairs. Cf. pueou.

puepueouen *N* repeated climbing;  
being stair-shaped.

pui *VTr+Ob* copulate with. Cf.  
puepue-en.

puitəh *N* entrance, door.

puei *VInt* climb. See *syn.*  
pueou.

pueien *N* climbing.

punosI *VTr+Ob* smell. See vo<sub>1</sub>,  
vutE.

punpunosen *N* smelling.

pUpuluu *VInt* count. Cf. vulii.

pupuluuen *N* counting.

pUpuru *VInt* be rough (of skin).

pUpus *VInt* squeeze. Cf. husl.

pupusen *N* squeezing.

purunI *VTr+Ob* soil, dirty. See  
toti, mumuu.

purunien *N* soiling, dirtying.

\*pus *N* cat.

pusI *VTr+Ob* see

pusien *N* seeing, sight.

## R

rakkuelili *N* an unidentified game for boys.

raliq *N* operculum of various shellfish (excepting Turbinidae).

ralu *Pron* we two inclusive. *Cf.* ratel, xir.

ramueau *N* spiderweb. See sAsar.

ramul *N* Cat's Eye Turban, Tapestry Turban.

raNI, reNI *Prep* from.

rageasu *N* a small plant with purplish leaves. *Cf.* vuraŋE, asu.

raŋI *VTr+Ob* empty.

raŋien *N* emptying.

rAran *VInt* wild, undomesticated.

rarat *N* a very small biting ant.

rAratI 1. (See ratI).  
2. *VTr+Ob* (Edu subdialect) take away.

ratel *Pron* we three or four inclusive. *Cf.* ralu, xir.

ratI, rarati *TrAdv* out, off, from, away.

*E.g.* hur rat eisiŋ nam. Take off your clothes.

lamal rati re-vul. They uprooted it from the hole.

ogur rati ranou. You took it away from me.

rau *N* an unidentified tree.

ræli- egg. (Root in various derivatives, see below).

rælihi *N* turtle egg. *Cf.* ræli-, hi<sub>1</sub>.

rælitE *N-tE* egg. *Cf.* ræli-.

rælititin *N* ants' eggs; rice. *Cf.* ræli-, titin.

rælitumen *N* birds' eggs. *Cf.* ræli-, tumen.

rælsunue *N* tortoise-shell earrings. *Cf.* ræli-.

ræltuto *N* chicken egg. *Cf.* ræli-, tuto.

re<sub>1</sub> *NInal* blood.

re<sub>2</sub> *N* an unidentified tree.  
re teppəŋ a variety of re.  
re te miəh *ibid.*

redemien *N* thought. *Cf.* nEneml.

reitin *PredAt* true, truthful. *Cf.* kereitin.

reliŋI *TrAdv* leaving, abandoning. *Cf.* liŋl.

relmetoum *N* a part of the flower of the tree rau.

reNI (variant of raNI).

reŋ *N* Green Palm Lorikeet: Vini palmarum.

rErei *VInt* knock.

rereien *N* knocking.

ri *NInal* side; piece.

rir *VInt* hang (of certain fruits).

rIrihii *VInt* multicolored.

rIrilu *VInt* spotted black and white. See melkabak, vohvetei.

riru *N* an unidentified vegetable.

\*rit *VInt* read.

\*riten *N* reading.

riu *N* coconut crab.

robue *N* a variety of yam.

romolhu *N* high mountain. *Cf.* hu.

rorovuli *N* Parrot-Finch:  
Erythrura. See rorovuli  
nulep, vatimæn.

rorovuli nulep Blue-faced  
Parrot-Finch: *E. trichroa*.

rovu *N* (Edu subdialect) Reef  
Heron. See koh, op, taliue.

rute *N* place, spot.

rutE *N-te* half.

## S

sa<sub>1</sub> *VInt* bad.

sa<sub>2</sub> *NClas* domestic plant or  
animal.

\*saak *N* shark.

sahA *VTr+Ob* open (a door). Un-  
inflected form sah.

*E.g.* misah puitah. He opens  
the door.

sahaen *N* opening.

sahuot *N* a Southeast Ambrym  
village.

sai *N* *ibid*.

sakni *VTr+Ob* do; cause. *Cf.*  
sexien.

*E.g.* osakni nah? What are  
you doing?

saknien *N* doing, causing.

sakpisI *VTr+Ob* try, try to.

sakpisien *N* trying.

sakras (variant of saxaras).

sakrasen *N* inability. *Cf.*  
saxaras.

sal<sub>1</sub> *VInt* come to a point (of  
eitavan).

sal<sub>2</sub> *N* an unidentified shell-  
fish.

salele *VInt* be wide.

salele-en *N* width.

salele-ni *VTr+Ob* widen.

saluh *N* water vapor, steam.

samueo *N* a Southeast Ambrym  
village.

sane (alternative uninflected  
form of sa<sub>2</sub>).

saNI *VTr+Ob* give.

*E.g.* misani mini. He gives  
it to him.

sanien *N* giving.

saqas *Adj-Adv* almost.

saqat *PredAt* beginning to  
have meat (coconut). See  
matsatin.

sageauen *N* getting into  
trouble.

sageau-ni *VTr+Ob-Ref* get into  
trouble.

sagenI *VTr+Ob* hang up.

sagenien *N* hanging up.

saji (obsolescent; see sagenI).

sajien (See sagenien).

sap *Adj-VInt* different; differ.

sarE *VTr+Ob* tie up. See *syn.*  
(?) varxatl.

sAsal *VInt* float.

sasalen *N* floating.

sAsar *VInt* make a web. *Cf.*  
sarE; see ramueau.

sasavitonien *N* gathering.  
*Cf.* savitonI.

savilien *N* a native dance.

savitonI *VTr+Ob-Ref* gather  
together (things; people).

*E.g.* misavitoni. He gathers  
it.

lasaviton xil. They  
gather; they get to-  
gether.

saxaras, sakras *VTr+Ob* (clausal object only) be unable (to).  
Cf. sakrasen; see kilA.

E.g. nasaxaras namasi. I  
can't hit him.

saxaver *N* a kind of coral.

saxolei-ni *VTr+Ob* hang on a  
hook.

saxoleinien *N* hanging on a  
hook.

saxoles-ni *VTr+Ob* reciprocate (in  
the exchange of similar things).  
Cf. saNI, xoles-ni.

səh (uninflected form of sahA).

səŋot *N* wooden hatchet.

sehseh *VInt* breathe; pant.

sehsehen *N* breathing, breath;  
panting.

sei *VTr+Ob* fill. Cf. sien;  
see pol<sub>2</sub>.

E.g. nisei klās ni-oei. I'll  
fill the glass with  
water.

seinien *N* filling.

selimən *N* Swamp Harrier: Circus  
approximans. See syn.  
vəvəhum.

selpasI *VTr+Ob* split (thing of  
any shape). Cf. -pasI; see  
mesəl.

selpasien *N* splitting.

selsoso *N* an unidentified  
shellfish.

seneaq *N* a native dance.

senute *N-tE* thorn.

sep speak. Occurs only with  
the *TrAdv* usill, and in  
sepin, sepiaio; apparently  
reconstructible as sepl  
*VTr+Ob*.

sep usill relate, tell, tell  
about.

E.g. sep usil volei minou.  
Tell me a parable.

sep usil-ti moletin ak  
minou. Tell me about  
this man.

ses *N* shellfish of the family  
Neritiidae.

sesəh *N* thin lengthwise slices  
of breadfruit or sweet  
potato. See lah sesəh.

seslipon *N* an unidentified  
shellfish. Cf. ses.

sesmahutahut *N* a shellfish of  
the family Neritiidae. Cf.  
ses.

sesonI *VTr+Ob* hide. See xus.

sesonien *N* hiding.

sesveik *N* an unidentified  
shellfish. Cf. ses, veik.

sexien *N* business. Cf. sakni.

-si who: in visi and with any  
*NInal* or *NClas*.

E.g. im masi? Whose house?  
ninesi? Whose mother?

si<sub>1</sub> *NInal* bone.

si<sub>2</sub> *N* White-collared King-  
fisher: Halcyon chloris.

siasi *N* cricket.

sien *VInt* fill something. Cf.  
sei; sisienen.

sien *N* happiness. Cf. həsii.

siisi *VInt* whistle (of the  
wind).

siisien *N* whistling of the wind.

sikan *N* mosquito.

sikkoxole (variant of  
sikkuxole).

sikkue (See sikkuxole).

sikkue-en (See sikkuxolen).

sikkuexolE VTr+Ob block, plug up,  
fence off. Cf. sikkue, xolE.

sikkuexolen N blocking, plugging,  
fencing, off.

siko N Coconut Lory: *Trichoglossus*  
*haematodus*.

sil VInt go under. Cf. sisilen.

sila N corn.

sile NInal lower leg. Cf. sil,  
le.

silip N Tanna Fruit Dove:  
*Ptilinopus tannensis*.

silo N wooden bowl.

silutE N-tE immature pig.  
silut apees young sow.  
silut uetin young boar.

siniai N an unidentified shell-  
fish.

sin VInt dress. Cf. eisin.

singen N dressing.

sisen N asking, request.

sisI VTr+Ob ask (a person).  
E.g. tesisnou xa namæ reliŋ ut.  
He asked me to leave.  
tesisnou ni-polien. He  
asked me to work (lit.  
for work).  
nasisuk upol-ni. I ask  
you to do it.

sIsi VInt be too lazy.

sisien N song. See kikei.

sisienen N filling something.  
Cf. sien.

sIsila VTr+Ob chase away (a  
person). See sue-ni; sissilen.

sisilen N going under something.  
Cf. sil.

sIsilu VInt sprout.

sisiluen N sprouting.

sisin N a shellfish of the  
family Olividae. See syn.  
hismen.

sissilen N chasing someone  
away. Cf. sisila.

sItal VInt emerge, come out.  
First vowel lost in inflected  
forms.  
E.g. netak mistal bemei. This  
thing emerges, comes.

sittalen N emergence.

sivæ VTr+Ob kick.

sivæsiven N kicking.

sixxoles-ni VTr+Ob give in  
exchange (dissimilar things).  
Cf. xoles-ni, saxoles-ni.

soh VInt stop, stand still.

sohen N stopping, standing.

sol VInt bend (limbs of tavu  
and talep) from weight of  
fruit. See makka.

somate (See luholu somate).

soNI VTr+Ob put, place.

sonien N putting, placement.

sosi VTr+Ob stick with a spear  
(without throwing it).

sOso VInt throw a spear.  
sOso xatl spear (transitive).

soso VInt slip and fall. See  
syn. tato.

sosoen N spear-throwing.

sosohoten N defecating with  
diarrhoea on something.

sOsohotI VTr+Ob-Ref defecate  
with diarrhoea on. Cf. suh,  
tOtohotI.

sOsoNI VTr+Ob pile up. Cf.  
soNI.

sosonien N piling.

sosoxaten (See soxatien).

sotin *N* distance.

*E.g.* de sotin. He is far  
(*lit.* he's in the distance).

be sotin. He goes far.

soxatI *VTr+Ob* cover. *Cf.* soNl, xatl.

soxatien, sosoxaten *N* covering.

\*staat *VInt* start.

\*staaten *N* starting.

sue-en *N* chasing away animals.

sue-ni *VTr+Ob* chase away  
(animals). See sIsila.

suh *VInt* defecate with diarrhoea.  
*Cf.* s0sohotl; t0toh.

suhen *N* defecation with  
diarrhoea.

suhon *N* beach.

sukabak *N* a kind of bee.

sukon *N* a shellfish of the  
family Patellidae.

sukuhos *N* *ibid.*

\*sukul *N* school.

\*sumok *VInt* smoke.

\*sumok-ni *VTr+Ob* smoke.

\*sumoxen *N* smoking.

sun *VInt* sneeze.

sunen, susunen *N* sneezing.

suŋ *Adv* after, afterwards,  
then.

*E.g.* visuvon suŋ ha nipusi.  
Tomorrow I'll go see  
him.

inou napol mu bus di e  
xouk suŋ. I'll work  
first, then you afterwards.

suŋai *N* an unidentified shell-  
fish.

sup *N* chief.

sup toto high chief; god.

suppan *VInt* make fire. *Cf.*  
upaŋ.

suppanen *N* making fire.

sus *N-VInt* breast; to nurse.

susunen (See sunen).

sutaŋ *Adj-Adv* alone, only.  
*Cf.* taŋ; kestak (*syn.?*).

*E.g.* inou sutaŋ nada. I'm  
alone.

lapat sutaŋ e vatiei ak.  
They sleep only in  
this tree.

sute *N-tE* juice, milk (of  
coconut).

*E.g.* sut ni coconut milk.

suvai *N* a shellfish of the  
family Patellidae (Limpets).

suvien *N* sand.

suvon *N* mat.

# T

ta-<sub>1</sub> Adjectivizing prefix; see  
tameloxoluk, tametauen, *etc.*

ta-<sub>2</sub> Emphatic prefix; see  
tamun, taxiak, tavusien, *etc.*

ta *VInt-VAux* stay, exist; as  
an *AuxV* ta indicates action  
characteristic of the actor,  
and definite (relative to  
ti<sub>1</sub>) as to time, place, or  
other circumstances. Non-  
singular forms di, ti.

*E.g.* (*VInt*) tus navan da. I  
have a book (*lit.* my  
book exists).

tus navan di. I have  
books.

miliŋi da. He leaves it  
(*lit.* he puts it, it  
stays).

- inou sutaŋ nada. I'm alone.  
liŋi vata! Leave it alone!  
(VAux) da pol. He works.
- taalaŋ VInt be stupid, senseless.
- taalaŋ-ni VTr+Ob not know, be ignorant of. See kila.
- taavehi Adv for a short while, in a while.
- taboŋ N late night. Cf. vonien.
- taen N master, owner (of domestic animal).
- taep N roof center beam.
- tagei N fourth stage in string game; see tis.
- tahal N from (a birthplace).  
E.g. moletin tahal amrim.  
People from Ambrym.
- tahalvi Adv whence. Cf. tahal, -vi.
- tahei N wave.
- tahi N deep bush (where people rarely go).
- tahikon N deepest bush (where people never go).
- tai, te N-te(?) excrement, dung, manure. The forms tai and te are distributed exactly like the -te and -t forms of the N-te nouns.  
E.g. tai manure.  
te asu rat dung.
- tailen N Spotted Fantail;  
Rhipidura spilodera. Cf. tairau.
- tairau N Collared Fantail;  
Rhipidura fuliginosa. Cf. tailen.
- tak<sub>1</sub> VInt(8) be here. Cf. ta, ak.
- tak<sub>2</sub> Adj-Adv this; here (specific place). Cf. ta<sub>-2</sub>, ak.
- takares (children's variant of 'takes').
- takes Adj just, only. Elicited only with tei<sub>1</sub>. Cf. ta<sub>-1</sub>, -kes.  
E.g. nim tei takes. Just one house.
- takosau VInt(8) be left over.  
Cf. tasau.
- takosauen N being left over.
- tale VTr+Ob(8) warm oneself by.  
E.g. nadal upaŋ. I warm myself by the fire.
- taleai N a large shellfish of the family Trochidae.
- talimalim N a common dark cowrie with light dorsal spots.
- talep N an unidentified tree with edible fruit.
- talite PredAt old.
- taliue N white phase of Reef Heron. See op, koh, rovu.
- taloh N Island Thrush: Turdus poliocephalus.
- taltiti N a kind of clam.
- taltitii VTr+Ob(8) pull down.
- talxatI VTr+Ob(8) catch. Cf. xatI<sub>1</sub>.
- talxatien N catching.
- tamasis N worm.
- tamat (variant of tomat).
- tamatsal N place of peace (where no weapons may be brought).
- tame NInal father, uncle, et al.: F, FB, FFF; woman's MZH, BS, HZS. Vocative and P<sub>1</sub> sg. tata.
- tameloxoluk Adj. black. Cf. ta<sub>-1</sub>, meloxoluk.
- tamera N Red-bellied Fruit Dove: Ptilinopus greyii. Cf. mera.
- tametauen Adj cowardly. Cf. ta<sub>-1</sub>, metau, -en.



tammea *VInt* wake up. *Cf.* mea;  
see *syn.* lalei.

tammeaen *N* waking.

tamu *Adv* still. Always preceded by *ti*<sub>1</sub>.

*E.g.* di napol tamu. I'm still working.

di tamu lakkora. They're still crowing.

tan *N* ground, soil; direction downward. *Cf.* netan.

tanbur *N* an unidentified small tree.

tanin *VInt* unclear, cloudy, dirty (of glass). *Cf.* tAtanuk.

tanmaus *N* name of a single-line drawing.

tansu *N* (Paama dialect) Southeast Ambrym.

tanuxen *N* cloudiness, smokiness. *Cf.* tAtanuk.

taŋ *Adv-Adj* enough; just, only.

*E.g.* bos taŋ. O.K.; Good enough; You're welcome.

misepin-ni vuteili taŋ. He speaks it just a little.

pol-ni nim lu taŋ. He's making just two houses.

taŋa *VInt*(8) stay behind. Non-singular *ti*<sub>ŋa</sub>. *Cf.* *ta*<sub>1</sub>.

taŋaen *N* staying behind.

taŋal *VInt* make noise, be noisy.  
otaŋal! Be quiet!

taŋalen *N* noisiness.

taŋan xa (Introduces subordinate clause) in order that. *Cf.* *te*<sub>NI</sub>, *ŋan*.

*E.g.* ihe tim taŋan xa nipol. I'll go home in order to work.

tap *Adj-Adv* whole, entire. Apparently obsolete; elicited only in hanutap twenty, and:

da tap. It's more than necessary; It's more than was expected.

tapasI *VTr+Ob*(8) cut (round thing). *Cf.* -pasI, tappasI.

tapasien *N* cutting round things.

tapmelup *N* a variety of *tavu*<sub>1</sub>.

tapmueaxoi *N* *ibid.*

tappasI *VTr+Ob*(8) cut (many round things). *Cf.* tapasI.

tappasien *N* cutting round things (many, or repeatedly).

tappili *N* a variety of *tavu*<sub>1</sub>. *Cf.* *tavu*<sub>1</sub>, pili.

tappusen *N* wringing.

tappus-ni *VTr+Ob*(8) wring. *Cf.* hus, pUpus.

taratI *VTr+Ob*(8) cut down (a tree). *Cf.* tata<sub>1</sub>, ratI.

taratien *N* cutting down trees.

tarbunbun *N* Baker's Pigeon: Duculi bakeri. See *syn.* uiva.

tas *N* sea water, salt water; salt. See oei.

e tas at sea.

tasau *VInt*(8) be left over (something that should not be). *Cf.* takosau, nesau.

tasauen *N* being left over.

tasE *NInal* woman's niece: woman's BD, HZD. *Irreg.* *P*<sub>1</sub> *sg.* taseak.

tasI *VTr+Ob*(8) cut off skin or peel.

tasien *N* cutting off skin or peel.

tasse *NInal* by oneself. The function(s) of this root are not clear; it has been elicited only in inflected forms, and in the last example it appears to function as *TrAdv*.

- E.g.* moletin ak tassen pusi.  
This man alone sees it.  
inou tassok pusi. I see  
it by myself.  
napus tassok-ni. *ibid.*
- tata<sub>1</sub> VInt cut repeatedly. Cf.  
tei<sub>2</sub>.
- tata<sub>2</sub> (Vocative and P<sub>1</sub> sg. of  
tame).
- tataen N repeated cutting.
- tAtanuk VInt cloudy, smoky.  
Cf. tanin.  
*E.g.* ut mittanuk (= mittanuk  
xol ut). It's cloudy.
- tAtaŋ VInt insert one's hand.
- tatili VTr+Ob(8) await (something  
expected at a definite time, or  
for a specific person). Cf. ta,  
titil.
- tatilien N awaiting.
- tato VInt slip and fall. See  
syn. soso.
- tatoen N falling.
- tattei Adj a few.
- tava (variant of tova).
- \*tavak N tobacco.
- tavanitE N-tE part of eitavan  
that runs nearest eimal and  
eivave. Usually in phrase  
tavanit tis.
- tavæni VTr+Ob(8) be beyond.
- tavea VInt draw, write. See  
tisl.
- taveaen N drawing, writing.
- tavi VInt(8) be where. Cf. ta,  
-vi.  
*E.g.* davi? Where is it?
- taviak N a Southeast Ambrym  
village, site of a former  
missionary station.
- tavorxa N a variety of tavu<sub>1</sub>.
- tavrara N *ibid.*, with some  
leaves red.
- tavu<sub>1</sub> N an unidentified tree  
with edible fruit.
- tavu<sub>2</sub> N live shellfish of the  
family Conidae. See valtavu.
- tavuep N a large variety of  
tavu<sub>2</sub>.
- tavuli VTr+Ob(8) break (a  
long thing, over something  
else). Cf. vull, tapasi.
- tavulien N breaking something  
long over something else.
- tavusien Adj all. Cf. ta-<sub>2</sub>,  
vusien.
- taxai Adj-Adv that, over there  
(specific place). Cf. ta-<sub>2</sub>,  
xai.
- taxatI VTr+Ob(8) sit on.  
Cf. ta, xatl<sub>3</sub>.
- taxatien N sitting on something.
- taxau VInt(8) burn. See xanl,  
tinl.
- taxauen N burning.
- taxeih Adj hard, difficult.  
Cf. ta-<sub>1</sub>, xeih.
- taxiak Adv right now. Cf.  
ta-<sub>2</sub>, xiak.
- taxotehI VTr+Ob(8) cross.
- taxototehen N cutting up long  
things.
- taxototehI VTr+Ob(8) cut up  
(long things).
- taxui N thatch.
- \*tæim N time.
- tÄtæoŋ VInt listen carefully.  
See loneoŋ.
- tætæoŋen N listening carefully.
- tÄtæoŋ-ni VTr+Ob listen care-  
fully to.

te<sub>1</sub> *VTr+Ob*(8) (never inflected for object) be in, on, at; go onto. Non-singular base ti.

E.g. tiei de teep. The knife is on the table.

madi vila ve-venu xal  
vatiŋ taŋ. We (pl.,  
exc.) are in Vila because  
of the volcano and  
hurricane.

usoni ite teep. You'll  
put it on the table.

te<sub>2</sub> (See tai).

teal *N* point: hitting opponent's marble in one shot after he has got vakkes, q.v.

teapsal *N* bridge.

teasu *N* an unidentified bush.  
Cf. te<sub>2</sub>, asu.

teau *N* White-throated Pigeon:  
*Columba vitiensis*.

\*teep *N* table.

tei<sub>1</sub> *Num* one, a.  
tei mun one more, another  
one.

tei<sub>2</sub> *VTr+Ob*(8) cut, chop. Cf.  
tata<sub>1</sub>.

tela *VTr+Ob*(8) accompany, take,  
lead (often best translated  
as 'with'). Cf. tētehi.

E.g. latpoue del ameru nan.  
They took it with his  
shell trumpet. (lit.  
They took it, it  
accompanies his shell  
trumpet.)

telaen *N* accompanying.

telpasI *VTr+Ob*(8) tear. Cf.  
-pasI; see mesəh.

telpasien *N* tearing.

temət *N* devil.  
temət te nim. Poles going  
between taep and vesis, q.v.

tena (alternative uninflected  
form of teNI).

tenbe *Ninal* limbs and body  
organs. Cf. ve.

teni *N* a common man's name.

teNI *Prep* of, for. This *Prep*  
does not normally take an  
animate object; it may do  
so only when following the  
en-nominalization of a *VTr*  
or in an equational predicate  
when another teNI plus en-  
nominalization follows.

E.g. puitəh te-nim entrance  
of the house.

mer te-vakuheok my  
knuckle (lit. joint of  
my finger).

te-ŋan ak for this  
purpose.

hasien te-moletin  
(= has moletin-en)  
killing people.  
(Cf. hasien na-moletin  
people's killing).

ŋanik be tenou, te-polien.  
This is for me, for  
working.

tep *VInt*(8) how.

E.g. olone midep? How are  
you? Are you well?

xouk utep? What will  
you do? How will you  
be?

nadep? How am I?

nalani xa-itep nixul.  
I'm about to learn how  
to swim.

mitaalani xa-ixul itep.  
He doesn't know how to  
swim.  
(Verb order is free  
after xa).

tepəŋite *N-te* fragment, piece.

terimat *N* an unidentified small  
fish.

terohon-ni *VTr+Ob* practice.  
Cf. teterohonien.

E.g. miterohon-ni lohen. He  
practices running.

terumue *PredAt* short.

tesite *PredAt* younger. See *muite*.

tetal *N* snake.

tetehen *N* slicing, snipping.  
Cf. *tihii*.

tEteli *VInt* hold on; marry.  
Cf. *tela* (?)

tEteli *e* hold on to.

tetelien *N* holding on; marrying.

tEtenai *VInt* spread out leaves.

tetenaien *N* spreading out leaves.

tEtep *VInt* swell, be swollen.  
See *syn. lavuap*.

teterohonien *N* practice. Cf.  
*terohon-ni*.

teteven *N* swelling.

tetill (variant of *tatill*).

tetitou *N* a game played with  
string (distinct from *tis*).

teviei *PredAt* long, tall.

teviei-ni *VTr+Ob* lengthen.

ti<sub>1</sub> *VInt-VAux*(8) stay, exist;  
as a *VAux* *ti* indicates action  
characteristic of the actor,  
and indefinite (relative to  
*ta*) as to time, place, or  
other circumstances. Unlike  
*ta*, *ti* takes only an animate  
actor.

E.g. *di pol tamu igoxor*. He  
still works there.

*di taapat-ti*. He never  
sleeps.

*odi olele-ni nah?* What  
do you have a premoni-  
tion of?

ti<sub>2</sub> *N* an unidentified small  
reef fish.

\*ti<sub>3</sub> *N* tea.

ti<sub>4</sub> (non-singular base of *ta*  
and *te*<sub>1</sub>).

ti<sub>5</sub> *Adv* Post-verbal clitic  
indicating that action is  
contingent on favorable cir-  
cumstances, such as approval  
of addressee. Perhaps  
identifiable with *ti*<sub>6</sub>. Cf.  
*timu*.

E.g. *namu-ti oei*. I'll drink  
some water (if you don't  
mind).

*nabit-ti tu napol-ti xiak*.  
I'd like to work now.

*labit-ti lapol-ni nahou*  
*nae*. They want to work  
their garden.

*opispis mini-ti vahei*.  
You're teaching her to  
weave.

ti<sub>6</sub> *Adv* Post-verbal clitic,  
obligatory in clause con-  
taining negative prefix.  
Cf. *timun*.

E.g. *nataapus-ti moletin*. I  
don't see anybody.

*taahur tuvava-ti*. She  
hasn't given birth to  
the baby.

*ninaapol-ti*. I won't  
work.

*taave inou-ti*. It's not  
me.

*eok-ti taavei-ti neta*.  
I don't want anything.

tiamu *VInt*(8) go ahead, be  
first, precede. Cf. *mu*<sub>2</sub>.

tiamuen *N* going ahead.

tiamu-ni *VTr+Ob*(8) precede.

E.g. *latpasi tetiamu-ninou*.  
He's older than me.  
(lit. They gave birth  
to him, he preceded me).

tiei<sub>1</sub> *N* body.

tiei<sub>2</sub> *N* clam.

tiei<sub>3</sub> *N* knife.

tihii *VTr+Ob*(8) slice; snip.  
Cf. *tetehen*.

tii *VTr+Ob*(8) hit with the fist, punch. *Cf.* tutuen.

tilamun (variant of tilomun).

tilaŋ *N* sky.

tilenI *VTr+Ob*(8) spill.

tiletil *N* an unidentified plant.

till *VTr+Ob*(8) stick, prick; sew. *Cf.* titil.

-till wait: root of tatitl, titill, hustill.

tilomun, tilamun *VInt*(8) return.

tilomunen *N* returning.

tim *N* home: house and surrounding property, including plants and any auxiliary buildings. Possession is indicated with *NClas* sa.

*E.g.* nabe tim savan. I'm going home.

timaru *N* a shellfish of the family Terebridae.

timen (See vettimen).

timu *Adv* first (if circumstances permit). *Cf.* ti<sub>5</sub>, mu<sub>2</sub>.

*E.g.* namu timu oei. First let me drink some water.

timun *Adv* not yet, no longer. *Cf.* ti<sub>6</sub>, mun.

*E.g.* taatteli timun. She isn't married yet.

tin *N* cabbage.

tinai *N* intestines. *Cf.* tinE.

tinE *NInal* intestines. *Cf.* tinai.

tine *NInal* aunt: FZ, MBW. *P*<sub>1</sub> sg. tinak.

tinI *VTr+Ob*(8) burn; boil; cook. *Cf.* titin.

tiŋa (non-singular base of taŋa).

tipasI *VTr+Ob*(8) crack, shatter (voluntarily). *Cf.* -pasl.

tippasien *N* voluntary shattering.

tiramue *N* man, male (human). *Cf.* horamue.

tis *N* 1. single-line drawing. *Cf.* eimal, eivave, eitavaŋ, pisvuvu, sal, tavaŋitE, hei-ni.

2. String game wherein first player makes a certain design with the string on the fingers, which he passes to second player; second player converts original design into another, which he returns to first player; *etc.* Game continues till one player makes a mistake. There are eight traditional designs, which take the order: matiri, asuram, valeat, tagei, tivratl, pesum, atin, eok; asuram, *etc.* (each non-initial cycle begins with asuram). *Cf.* tisl.

tisem *N* outrigger (part of canoe).

tisen *N* writing, drawing.

tisI *VTr+Ob*(8) draw, write. *Cf.* tis.

tisok *N* rubbish, garbage, waste.

tit *VAux*(8) just.

*E.g.* dit but e tan nesau. He just jumps on the ground.  
dit obaran? Are you just walking?

titamol *N* an evil dwarf who lives in banyan trees.

tIti *VTr+Ob* separate.

tItibu *VInt* distribute, share.

titien *N* separation.

tItil *VInt* sew. *Cf.* till.

titilen *N* sewing.

titilI *VTr+Ob*(8) await (indefinite circumstances, relative to tatill, q.v.). *Cf.* ti<sub>1</sub>, tatill.

titilien *N* awaiting.

- titin *N* ant.  
 tItin *VInt* be hot. *Cf.* tinl.  
 titinien *N* heat.  
 titivinen *N* pushing. *Cf.* tivinl.  
 tituhu *N* hill. *Cf.* hu.  
 tivherit *N* a kind of bat.  
 tivinI *VTr+Ob*(8) push. *Cf.* titivinen.  
 tivrati *N* fifth stage in string game; see tis.  
 to-, tu- fowl: root of tuto, tumen, and many compounds (below).  
 toak *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.  
 toatou *N* hen. *Cf.* to-, atou.  
 toh<sub>1</sub> *N* sugar cane.  
 toh<sub>2</sub> *N* all-white chicken. *Cf.* to-.  
 tohilikkin *N* chicken with ruffled feathers. *Cf.* to-, hill<sub>2</sub>.  
 tohilippuru *N* *ibid.* *Cf.* to-, hill<sub>2</sub>, pUpuru.  
 tohoslanis *N* black chicken with grey and white spots. *Cf.* to-.  
 tohulaia *N* Yellow White-eye: *Zosterops flavifrons*.  
 tohusi *N* mostly white chicken. *Cf.* to-, husi.  
 tol *Num* three.  
 tomai *N* chicken with short legs. *Cf.* to-, mai<sub>2</sub>.  
 toaimai *N* chicken with black lines on neck. *Cf.* to-.  
 tomalhos *N* rooster. *Cf.* to-, malhos.  
 tomat, tamat *N* peace.  
 tomure (See mure).  
 ton *N* mangrove.  
 ton-ton *N* Glossy Swiftlet: *Collocalia esculenta*.  
 toporajis (See tohilikkin, tohilippuru).  
 tora *N* all-red rooster. *Cf.* to-, torara.  
 torara *N* rust.  
 torran *N* wild Domestic Fowl. *Cf.* to-, rAran.  
 torrilu *N* black and white chicken. *Cf.* to-, rlrilu.  
 totak *VInt*(8) stay here. *Cf.* tak.  
 totan *VInt*(8) sit down. *Cf.* tan.  
 totanen *N* sitting.  
 \*totel *N* turtle.  
 \*toti *PredAt* dirty. See mUmuu, purunl.  
 toto (See sup toto).  
 totoen *N* normal defecation.  
 tOtoH *VInt* defecate normally. See suh.  
 totohoten *N* defecating normally on something.  
 tOtohotI *VTr+Ob-Ref* defecate normally on. *Cf.* sOsohotl.  
 totoxolen *N* touching. *Cf.* toxoll.  
 toum *N* all-red hen. *Cf.* to-.  
 tova, tava *N-Adj* one more, another one, any one; some, any, another.  
 tovatvuuei *N* chicken with red crest. *Cf.* to-, vatl, vuuei.  
 tovevu *N* chicken with barred patterning. *Cf.* to-, vevu.

tovi *N* Grey-backed White-eye:  
Zosterops lateralis.

tovolih *N* old woman.

tovulmueas *N* grey chicken.  
*Cf.* to-, vulmueas.

tovuol *PredAt* absent, lacking.  
*E.g.* neta tovuol ak. There's  
nothing here.

tovuuei *N* chicken half-red and  
half-black. *Cf.* to-, vuuei.

toxoli *VTr+Ob*(8) touch. *Cf.*  
totoxolen; see tuxohl.

toxxen *PredAt* very light green.  
*Cf.* xen.

\*trouŋ *PredAt* drunk.

tu<sub>1</sub> *N* bivalve mollusc (except  
clam), scallop.

tu<sub>2</sub> *Adv* (never clause-final)  
already. *Cf.* tuei.

*E.g.* mubasnou tu xiak. You've  
already killed me now.

de tu en. It's already  
on it.

natepol igoxor ena hura  
lu tu xa-bæ. I worked  
there two years ago.

neta tei bæ tu mal leleni.  
Something went already  
and uprooted and scattered  
it.

tu<sub>3</sub> *NInal* (inflected for sex of  
referent with singular posses-  
sor) sibling of same sex, *et*  
*al.*: man's B, FBS, MZS, WZH;  
woman's Z, FBD, MZD, HBW, MMM.

*E.g.* tuneli his brother.

tunehin her sister.

tuaxohis *N* an unidentified shell-  
fish. *Cf.* tu<sub>1</sub>, axohis.

tubasam *N* loincloth.

tuei *Adv* (always clause-final)  
already. *Cf.* tu<sub>2</sub>.

*E.g.* bus tuei. It's finished  
already.

de en tuei. It's on it  
already.

tuhulu *N* tree fern.

tuman *N* a dark bivalve mollusc.  
*Cf.* tu<sub>1</sub>.

tumap *N* a small shellfish of  
the family Turbinidae. *Cf.*  
tu<sub>1</sub>, map.

tumen *N* bird. *Cf.* to-, -men.

tunon *N* war.

tuok *Adv* now. *Cf.* tu<sub>2</sub>, ak.

tup *VInt* stick out, protrude.  
*Cf.* tuvA, tuvatuven.

tupasI *VTr+Ob*(8) crack, break,  
shatter (accidentally).

tupasien *N* accidental breakage.

tus<sub>1</sub> *N* book. *Cf.* tis.

tus<sub>2</sub> *N* a man's name.

tusiŋi *N* a type of bat with a  
tail.

tutE<sub>1</sub> *NInal* offspring (non-  
human). *Cf.* tututE.

tutE<sub>2</sub> *N-tE* sap.

tuto *N* chicken, domestic fowl:  
Gallus gallus. *Cf.* to-.

tutou *VInt*(8) follow, come  
after, come later.

tutouen *N* following.

tutou-ni *VTr+Ob*(8) follow, come  
after; help.

tutuen *N* hitting, punching.  
*Cf.* tii.

tututE *N-tE* young, offspring  
(non-human). *Cf.* tutE<sub>1</sub>.

tutuxohen *N* touching for a  
particular purpose. *Cf.*  
tuxohl.

tuva *VTr+Ob*(8) shoot (an  
arrow). *Cf.* tup.

tuvaes *N* shellfish of the  
family Veneridae; Venus shell.

tuvasin *N* arrow. *Cf.* tuvA.



tuvatuven *N* protruding. *Cf.* tup.  
 tuvava *N* baby.  
 tuxohI *VTr+Ob*(8) touch (for some particular purpose). *Cf.*  
 tutuxohen; see toxoll.

## U

uaahes *N* how much. *Cf.* vaahes.

uate *Prep* on, onto, right onto.  
 This *Prep* apparently does not occur after a verb inflected for tense. It may be a contraction of vaha it's about to go, plus teNI for.

*E.g.* vahit oliŋ kləs uate pet.  
 You'd better put the glass on the bed.

ueah *N* an unidentified bird.

ueh *Interj* (expression of disgust; used by women only).

ueih *N* an unidentified shellfish.

ueili *N* adult pig. See luholu, apees, vuuei.

uetiet *N* an unidentified plant.

uetin *PredAt* male (of domestic mammals).

uhos *N* a small shellfish of the family Trochidae.

ui<sub>1</sub> *N* maggot.

ui<sub>2</sub> *N* lobster.

ui<sub>3</sub> *N* a dance performed secretly between a young man and several of his friends for the purpose of casting a spell on a girl he is sexually interested in.

uiaui *N* a variety of yam.

uie *N* fishing arrow.

uihahau *N* an unidentified plant.

uiŋ *N* Great Frigatebird:  
 Fregata minor.

uip *N* Pacific Pigeon:  
 Ducula pacifica.

uit *N* octopus, squid.

uiva *N* Baker's Pigeon: Ducula bakeri. See *syn.* tarbunbun.

ulei *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

uli *Ninal* meaning unclear; observed only as subject in the idioms:

uli kAkan-ni be afraid of.

uli sa be ashamed.

*E.g.* uluk mikkan-ni xouk. I'm afraid of you.

ulin misa. He's ashamed.

ulikkanen *N* fear.

ulkakanien (See ulikkanen).

ulul *N* net.

upaŋ *N* fire; an unidentified red fish. See suppaŋ.

urvatiei *N* place where one owns trees. *Cf.* ut<sub>1</sub>, vatiei.

us *N* rain. *Cf.* mus.

usilI *TrAdv* repeating, imitating, following. *Cf.* husill.

*E.g.* napol usili. I work following (imitating) him.

sep usil moletin ak minou. Tell me about that man.

ut<sub>1</sub> *N* place, area, land, shore, island, homeland, weather.

*E.g.* ut merir. It's cold (of the weather).

nakila name ut. I can go to shore.

ut<sub>2</sub> *N* louse. Possession indicated with *NClas* 'a'.

utas *N* a Southeast Ambrym village.

utavu *N* name of a single-line drawing of yam.

utE *N-tE* leaf (of a specific plant). Cf. uvuei.  
 utesa *N* sacred place. Cf. ut<sub>1</sub>, sa<sub>1</sub>.  
 utiei *N* seed(s) (general). Cf. ututE, -ei.  
 utlavu *N* pig louse. Cf. ut<sub>2</sub>.  
 utlovu *N* a part of the flower of the tree ahii<sub>2</sub>.  
 utuol *N* a long-leaved grass.  
 ututE *N-tE* seed(s) (of a specific plant). Cf. utiei.  
 uvuei *N* leaf, leaves (general). See utE.

## V

vaahes *Adv* how many times. Cf. uahes, vaatop.  
 vaatop *Adv* sometime. Cf. vaahes, tova.  
 vah *N* shed.  
 vaheitovus *N* an unidentified shellfish.  
 vahit *Adv* better, rather. E.g. vahit namit namæ li. I'd rather go.  
 vahit oliŋ klas uate pet. You'd better put the glass on the bed.  
 vai *VInt*(1) fight.  
 vaien *N* fighting.  
 vak *N-VInt*(1) operculum of any small shellfish of the family Turbinidae (Cf. vatilil); to toss something in play. Cf. vaxen.  
 hur vak *lit.* choose the operculum: a game in which one player offers two closed fists to opponent who must choose the one with the vak in it. A wrong choice incurs six negative points named, in order, am, atitin, adarat, anas, anameskuri, anatin.  
 vakkes *N* in game of 'marbles' (played with vak): hitting the opponent's vak in one shot. Cf. vak, -kes. See teal, konsaa, lauu.  
 vak-ni *VTr+Ob*(1) toss in play.  
 vakuhe *NInal* finger. Cf. vak, he<sub>1</sub>.  
 vakule *NInal* toe. Cf. vak, le.  
 valeat *N* third stage in string game; see tis.  
 valei *N* an unidentified tree. See syn. nel.  
 valessuh *N* an unidentified very thin shell. See syn. valmamum.  
 valhasE *NInal* chest. Cf. vali-.  
 vali- hard shell: root of valitE and various compounds.  
 valihe *N* tortoise shell. Cf. vali- hi<sub>1</sub>.  
 valihoh *N* empty shell (of any shellfish). Cf. vali-.  
 valimap *N* grasshopper.  
 valitE *N-tE* hard shell; sow that has had offspring. Cf. vali-.  
 valit apees sow whose female offspring have had offspring.  
 valkora *N* inner shell around coconut meat. Cf. vali-.  
 valmamum *N* an unidentified very thin shell. Cf. vali-; see syn. valessuh.  
 valmætu *N* coconut shell (inc. hilutE and valkora). Cf. vali-, mætu<sub>1</sub>.  
 valnao *NInal* face. Uninflected form valnau.  
 valoei *N* bottle. Cf. vali-, oe<sub>1</sub>.  
 valono *NInal* mouth. Uninflected valone. Cf. vali-, amuno, hiluno.  
 valtavu *N* shell of any shellfish of the family Conidae. Cf. vali-, tavu<sub>2</sub>.

valusu *N* a small cowrie.

*Cf.* vali-.

valxo *NInal* ribs. *Cf.* vali-.

valxoro *PredAt* skinny (of pigs).

*Cf.* vali-, valxo.

vaŋE *NInal-VTr+Ob*(1) belly;  
to conceive.

vaŋiei *N* cave. *Cf.* vaŋE, -ei.

vaŋite *N-tE* inside, interior.

*Cf.* vaŋE.

vaŋiue *N* slit-gong (hollow log  
drum). *Cf.* vaŋE.

vaŋos *VInt*(1) breathe. *Cf.* vaŋE.

vaŋosen *N* breathing, breath.

vaŋuei *N* an unidentified shell-  
fish.

vaŋtato *N* a kind of bat. *Cf.*  
vaŋE, tato (?)

var *VInt*(1) blind (eye acting).

*E.g.* mæten bar. He's blind.

varE *VTr+Ob*(1) tie. *Cf.* varxatI,  
sarE.

vare-en *N* tying.

varen *N* blindness.

vares *N* white Flying Fox or  
Fruit Bat. See makon.

vari *Adv* at once, immediately.

*E.g.* ma asu mæt vari. The rat  
died at once.

ŋiha vari e nim mavan.  
I'll go home at once.

miguppas vatit eal ak  
vari. It immediately  
smashed this pine tree.

lupus ut vari xa miæh. At  
once they saw it was  
getting light.

nuseini ma ivus vari.  
You'll fill it and it  
will be done.

vari-ni *TrAdv* immediately.

*Cf.* vari.

*E.g.* napus vari-ni nim lu. I  
immediately saw two  
houses.

nihas vari-ni. I'll hit  
him at once.

varo *N* a small spider.

varxatI *VTr+Ob*(1) tie. *Cf.*  
varE, xat<sub>4</sub>.

varxatien *N* tying.

vas *VInt*(1) launder.

vasiaep (See vetvasiaep).

vasias *N* an unidentified bird.

vasil *N* Cardinal Honeyeater:  
*Myzomela cardinalis*.

vas-ni *VTr+Ob* launder.

vatetaran *N* fringe.

vathu *N* mountain. *Cf.* vatI, hu.

vatI *NInal* head. Irregular *P*<sub>1</sub>  
*sg.* vatok, *P*<sub>2</sub> *sg.* vatom.

vatiahii *N* core of breadfruit.  
*Cf.* vatI, ahii<sub>3</sub>.

vatiaŋ *N* wind; hurricane.  
*Cf.* vatI.

vatiei<sub>1</sub> *N* a large shellfish of  
the family Trochidae.

vatiei<sub>2</sub> *N* tree (general). *Cf.*  
vatI (?), -ei; vatitE.

vatihos *N* paddle.

vatilil *N* any shellfish of the  
family Turbinidae.

vatimen *N* Red-headed Parrot  
Finch: *Eaythrura cyanovirens*.  
*Cf.* vatI, -men.

vatiaŋah *N* multi-pointed spear.  
See vulupol, meris.

vatisu *N* an unidentified shell-  
fish.

vatitE *N-tE* tree (specific kind).  
*Cf.* vatiei<sub>2</sub>.

*E.g.* vatit eal pine tree.

vativu *N* bamboo container.

vatovus *N* various shellfish of the family Muricidae.

vatte *N* bottom-most part of tree trunk. *Cf.* vatiei<sub>2</sub>.

vatuṇaṇ *N* firewood (ready for use). *Cf.* vatiei, uṇaṇ; see ap.

vatvaraṇ *N* fibrous core of tree fern trunk.

vatvuuei *N* an unidentified shellfish.

vavuei *N* a plant with strong leaves used as straps.

vaxen *N* tossing. *Cf.* vak.

vəh *N* pandanus.

vəhakut *Adv* often, always, every time.

vəivəi *N* White-breasted Woodswallow: *Artamus leucorhynchus*.

vəvəhum *N* Swamp Harrier: *Circus approximans*. See *syn.* selimən.

ve *N* Inal limbs and body organs. *Cf.* tenbe.

veak<sub>1</sub> *N* banyan.

veak<sub>2</sub> *N* a small plant with edible leaves.

vei *N* an unidentified tree.

veik *N* Green Snail.

ven *Adv* for it. *Cf.* veNl.

*E.g.* namməsuk ven. I thank you for it.

vena (alternative uninflected form of veNl).

veNl *Prep* for, benefitting, in return for, in place of; because of (when noun phrase ends with taṇ). *Cf.* veṇen xa.

*E.g.* madi Vila ve-venu xal vatiaṇ taṇ. We are in Vila because of the volcano and hurricane.

venu *N* volcano.

veṇen xa (introduces subordinate clause) because. *Cf.* veNl, ṇen.

vesahii *N* papaya.

vesI *Prep* for (to find).

*E.g.* nakettəh vesI. I'll look for him.

vesik *N* Peregrine Falcon: *Falco peregrinus*. See *syn.* medisa.

vesis *N* edge-pole of roof.

vet- breadfruit: see derivatives below.

vetei *N* breadfruit; bread. *Cf.* vet-, -ei.

vetermu *Adv* soon.

vethoa *N* a variety of breadfruit. *Cf.* vet-.

vetin *N* sweat, sweating.

*E.g.* vetin gurnou. I'm sweating (*lit.* Sweating holds me).

vetkoptarel *N* a variety of breadfruit. *Cf.* vet-.

vetmeteniai *N* *ibid.*

vetovus *N* *ibid.*

vettimen *N* *ibid.*

vetvasiaep *N* *ibid.*

vetvuvut *N* *ibid.*

veum *N* Paama.

veveal *N* moth, butterfly.

vevero *N* a very large moth. *Cf.* veveal.

vevu *N* Banded Rail: *Rallus philippensis*.

vi *N* a variety of bamboo.

vi-, -vi where, which: root of visi, viliəh, xavi, tavi, tahalvi, iaxavi.

- viak *N* taro.  
 viak pelei a variety of taro.
- vihot *N* an unidentified fish.
- vilak<sub>1</sub> *N* sticks connecting outrigger to poles which attach to canoe.
- vilak<sub>2</sub> *N* a native dance.
- vilapən *N* a shellfish of the family Muricidae, Drupa sp.
- vile *N*inal female genitals.
- vili *N*inal rump.
- viliəh *Adv* when.
- viliva *N* cowrie (any shellfish of the family Cypraeidae).
- vilu *N* an unidentified tree.
- viluei *N* central area of spread taro leaves, where laplap is made.  
 pUpus viluei squeeze taro juice onto viluei.
- vin *VTr+Ob*(1, defective) satisfy (eating). This verb has only two forms: indicative bin, non-indicative vin.  
*E.g.* ganien bin xi. He has eaten enough (*lit.* He has eaten, it has satisfied him).  
 nia vinnou. I'll eat till I'm full.  
 nataaxa binnou-ti. I haven't eaten enough.
- viŋ *N* an unidentified insect, perhaps cricket.
- visalI, visell *Prep* near.
- visi *N* who. *Cf.* vi-, -si.
- visuvon *Adv* tomorrow. *Cf.* vonien, tabon.
- vituei *N* friendship.
- vixalu *VInt*(1) be confused.
- vixalu-ni *VTr+Ob*(1) confuse, mix up, be unable to distinguish.
- vo<sub>1</sub> *N*inal-*VInt*(1) smell, odour; to rot. *Cf.* vutE.
- vo<sub>2</sub> *N* Meaning unclear; recorded only in:  
 vo mak like this, in this manner  
 vo maxani suddenly.
- vohon *VInt*(1) close.
- vohonen *N* closing.
- vohvetei *PreDAt* spotted black and white (of pigs). See *syn.* melkabak.
- vok *N* birthmark.
- volei *N* tale, parable.
- voliau *N* a large spider.
- vonien *N* night. *Cf.* tabon, visuvon.
- vonus *N* sacred place where one goes to cause rain.
- vor *VInt*(1) be naturally sweet. See kAkas.
- voren *N* natural sweetness.
- voromaes *N* a shellfish of the family Trochidae.
- voromai *N* an unidentified fish.
- voromot *N* a kind of inedible crab.
- vota *N* a native dance.
- votesi *N* *ibid.*
- votoput *N* dwarf.
- votut *N* sacred place. *Cf.* ut<sub>1</sub> (?).
- vovilo *N* sea slug, sea cucumber.
- vovosavu, vovsavu *N* caterpillar.
- voxoli *N* canoe.
- voxxolen *N* enclosing, enclosure.
- voxxolI *VTr+Ob*(1) enclose. *Cf.* vohon.

vu *N* goitre.  
 vue *VInt*(1) be dry.  
 vueavuel *N* shark. The younger speakers know only the stem \*saak.  
 vue-en *N* dryness.  
 vuei *N* Barn Owl: *Tyto alba*.  
 vuhulu *VInt*(1) be wrinkled (of skin or clothing).  
 vuil *VInt*(1) flower (of the tree ahii).  
 vul *N* hole. Cf. vulutE.  
 vulI *VTr+Ob*(1) break (long things) with the hands. Cf. mavull, tavull, pelvull, vultotehl.  
 vulih *N* an unidentified tree.  
 vulii *VTr+Ob*(1) count. See pUpuluu.  
 vultotehen *N* breaking long things in the hands.  
 vultotehI (See vull).  
 vultusI *NInal* nose.  
 vulmueas *N* ashes. Cf. eas.  
 vulupol *N* multi-pointed spear. See meris, vatjah.  
 vulutE *N-tE* hole; burrow. Cf. vul.  
 vulvulis, mulmulis *N* an unidentified plant.  
 vulvulis merou a small variety of vulvulis.  
 vulvulis temæt a variety with strong stems used as cord.  
 vunit *VInt*(1) cover laplap while cooking.  
 vurañE *NInal* ear.  
 vuroei *N* puddle. Cf. oei.  
 vurvur *VInt*(1) be swollen or ulcerated in various spots.

vurvuren *N* being swollen or ulcerated in various spots.  
 vus *VInt*(1) finish; be complete.  
 vusien *N-Adj* finishing; all.  
 vut *VInt*(1) be dull, blunt  
 vutañor *N* live shellfish (of any kind).  
 vutE *N-tE* bad smell, stink. Cf. vo<sub>1</sub>.  
 vuteili *Adv* a little, slightly.  
 vuten *N* dullness.  
 vutetei *Adj* some.  
 vuueh<sub>1</sub> *N* Rufous-brown Pheasant Dove: *Macropygia mackinlayi*.  
 vuueh tora rufous phase of this bird.  
 vuueh vulmueas grey phase.  
 vuueh<sub>2</sub> *N* ray (fish).  
 vuuei *N* castrated boar; male spider shell.  
 vuuol *VInt*(1) be disinclined.  
 vuuolen *N* disinclination.  
 vuvus *N* an unidentified shellfish.  
 vuvut (See vetvuvut).

## X

xa<sub>1</sub> *Rel* that, which, who.  
 xa<sub>2</sub> *VInt*(6) fly. Irregular imperative ga.  
 xa<sub>3</sub> *VTr+Ob*(6) (object is always direct quotation) say. This stem is very often used redundantly after the semantically overlapping stem hitene, as in the example:

tetal biteni mini bitene miga  
'midep ma ommei opurun nim  
mavan?' The snake tells her,  
he says, he says 'Why have you  
come and dirtied up my house?'

xabin *VInt*(7) lose (in a game).

xabinen *N* losing, defeat.

xai *Adj* that (relatively near).  
See xor.

xaixai *N* shooting star.

xal *Prep* with (when just two  
are involved). Cf. xalu.

xalE<sub>1</sub> *NInal* tail.

xalE<sub>2</sub> *VTr+Ob*(6) pay (a person).  
See pos; xaxalen.

E.g. nagale \$10 e melenien.  
I pay him \$10 a day.

nagale be \$30. I pay  
him \$30 for it; I buy  
it from him for \$30.

xallenI *VTr+Ob*(7) burn com-  
pletely. Cf. xani, allenien.

xalu *Pron* they (dual). Cf. lu<sub>1</sub>.

xamæl *Pron* we (dual, exclusive).  
Cf. lu<sub>1</sub>.

xamæm *Pron* we (plural, exclusive).

xamætel *Pron* we (paucal, exclusive).

xami *Pron* you (plural, inclusive).

xamil *Pron* you (dual).

xamim *Pron* you (plural, exclusive).

xamitel *Pron* you (paucal).

xamivus *Pron* all of you. Cf.  
xami, vus.

xani *VTr+Ob*(7) burn, erupt,  
ignite.

E.g. venu gan. The volcano  
erupts.

upaŋ gani. The fire  
burns it.

xani *VTr+Ob*(7) eat. Cf. a<sub>1</sub>,  
xanien, anien.

xanien *VInt*(7) eat.

xatel *Pron* they (paucal).

xatI<sub>1</sub> *VTr+Ob*(7) afflict, affect,  
make sick. Cf. kakkaten.

xatI<sub>2</sub> *VTr+Ob*(7) (obligatory  
subject e<sub>1</sub>) be angry with.  
Cf. ekkaten.

E.g. em gati. You're angry  
with him.

xatI<sub>3</sub> *Prep* on.

xatI<sub>4</sub> *TrAdv-Adv* fix in one's  
mind, attach special  
importance to, put one's  
best efforts into; really.

E.g. pus xat tim. He looks  
carefully at the house  
(so as never to forget  
it).

pol xati-ni nim. He  
builds the house the  
best he is able.

im xati mavan. The  
house is really mine.

xavi *N-Adv* where, which. Cf.  
xa<sub>1</sub>, -vi.

E.g. go xavi? Where's he  
from?

im xavi xa mam? Which  
house is yours?

opat xavi? Where do  
you live?

da xavi? Where is it?

ovæ xavi? Where are you  
going?

xaxalen *N* paying, buying. Cf.  
xalE<sub>2</sub>.

xea (variant of xiak).

xehek (variant of xeih).

xeih *VInt*(6) be hard, strong,  
difficult. Cf. taxeih.

xeihen *N* hardness, strength,  
difficulty.

xen *VInt*(6) green. Cf. toxxen;  
see māmaas.



xeou *VInt*(6) play.

xeuk (variant of xouk).

xi *Pron* he, she; him, her;  
himself, herself.

xiak *Adv* now; here. *Cf.* xi,  
ak.

xil *Pron-Adj* they (plural).  
This root has pluralizing  
function in noun phrases.

*E.g.* tumen xil lasaviton xil.  
The birds gathered  
themselves together.

biteni mi ɲan xil. He  
told some of them.

xilvus *Pron* all of them.

xir *Pron* we (plural, inclusive).

xirvus *Pron* all of us (plural,  
inclusive).

xitak (See xiak).

xo *VTr+Ob*(6) (phrasal object  
only) be from, go from,  
come from, go through.

*E.g.* xi go xavi? Where's he  
from?

xoen *N* being from.

xolE *Prep* covering, surrounding,  
all over, all around. *Cf.*  
kutaxolE, sikkuxolE.

xoles-ni *VTr+Ob*(6) give  
(expecting something similar  
in return). *Cf.* exoles,  
xolxolesen.

xolsusei *N* woods, bush. *Cf.*  
xolE, susei.

xolxolesen *N* giving (expecting  
reciprocation).

xoni *VTr+Ob*(6) be like, similar  
to. *Cf.* gonien.

xor *Adj-Adv* there, that  
(relatively far; see xai).

xorau *Prep* over, across.

xos *Adv* maybe.

xos xa if, when.

xosali, osali *Adv* today.

xosaliak *Adv* nowadays. *Cf.*  
xosali, ak.

xouk, xeuk *Pron* you (singular).

xoxolesen (See xolxolesen).

xul *VInt*(6) swim.

xulen *N* swimming.

xumI *VTr+Ob*(6) squeeze (some-  
thing dry). See husI, pUpus.

xumien *N* squeezing dry things.

xururi *VInt*(6) boil.

xururien *N* boiling.

xus *VInt*(6) hide. See sesonI.

xusen *N* hiding.

xuxo *VInt*(6) be careful.

xuxo veNI be careful of.

xuxoen *N* care, carefulness.

## ENGLISH-SOUTHEAST AMBRYM FINDER LIST

### A

*abalone* ap.  
*abandon* heilingl, lehitl, relingl.  
*able: be - to* kila.  
*absent* tovuol.  
*accompany* tela.  
*across* xorau.  
*adam's apple* hoxoxune.  
*afternoon* mahes.  
*afterwards* suŋ.  
*again* mun.  
*alas* li.  
*albatross* mavusvalu.  
*albino* mahul.  
*algae* lilum.  
*all* vusien, tavusien, -vus.  
*almost* saŋas.  
*alone* kestak, keŋaŋ, sutaŋ,  
     tasse.  
*already* tu, tuei.  
*also* mun.  
*Ambrym* amrim.  
*anger* ekkaten.

*angry: become* seppaŋ, xatl.  
*another* tova.  
*ant: kinds of* titin, as, rarat.  
*appear (of sun)* musau.  
*area* ut.  
*arm* he, merhe.  
*armband (of shell)* ai.  
*around* xolE, lelenl, lel.  
*arrival* meien.  
*arrive* ammei.  
*arrow* tuvasin, uie.  
*ashes* vulmueas, husupaŋ,  
     husutE, mæhhis.  
*ask* sisl.  
*aunt* tine, nine.  
*Australian Goshawk* oreai.

### B

*baby* tuvava.  
*back* marl.  
*bad* sa.

*Baker's Pigeon* tarbunbun, uiva.

*bamboo* eou.

*bamboo container* vativu.

*banana* his.

*banana leaf (dead)* evuet.

*Banded Rail* vevu.

*banyan* veak.

*bark* hilutE, hulutE.

*Barn Owl* vuei.

*basin* pesin.

*basket* ateli.

*bat (mammal): kinds of* avæp,  
tivherit, tusiŋi, makon.

*be* he, ta, ti.

*beach* suhon.

*beads* huiven.

*beam: roof center* taep.

*bear (give birth to)* pæsl, hurl,  
læhl.

*beard* abasE, amuŋo.

*beat (of heart)* sehseh.

*because* venen xa, ve....taŋ.

*bed* pet.

*bee: kinds of* sukabak, onet.

*beer* pia.

*belly* vaŋE.

*below* netan.

*bend (limbs from weight of fruit)* makka, sol.

*beyond* tava-ni.

*big* eilep, himætu, mahulon,  
teviei.

*bird* tumen.

*birthmark* vok.

*bite* ŋasl.

*black* meloxoluk, tameloxoluk.

*blacken* meloxoluk-ni.

*bladder* ehuxE.

*bleed* mera.

*blind* var.

*blood* re.

*blow* huii.

*blue* mæmæas.

*boar: castrated* vuuei.

*boar: uncastrated* luholu.

*body* tiei, tenbe, ve.

*boil* xururi, tinl.

*bone* si.

*book* tus, uvuei.

*bottle* valoei.

*bottom (of sea)* huitan.

*bow* his.

*bowl* silo, pesin.

*boy* malhos, horamue.

*bracelet (of pig's tusk)* lih.

*brain* hohne.

*branch* aŋu, aŋutE, litE, halitE.

*bread* vetei.

*breadfruit* vetei, vet-.

*breadfruit: kinds of* memes,  
vethoa, vetkoptarel,  
vetmeteniai, vetovus,  
vettimen, vetvasiaep,  
vetvuvut.

*break* -pasl, hipasl, huppasl,  
kipasl, kippasl, mahoe, mapo,  
mavul, tavull, tipasl, tupasl,  
vull, vulkotehl.

*breast* sus.  
*breathe* vanos.  
*bridge* teapsal.  
*Broad-billed Flycatcher* holholvetei.  
*brother* tu, manne, hinne.  
*brother-in-law* mässe, asou, manne, avu.  
*bud* kah.  
*Buff-bellied Flycatcher* menvatiali.  
*burn* taxau, tinl, tltin, xanl, xallenl.  
*bush* xol.susei.  
*business* sexien.  
*butterfly* veveal, vevero.  
*buy* xalE.  
*by* e.

## C

*cabbage* tin.  
*call* kei, kesl, keskes.  
*calm* merou.  
*cane: sugar* toh.  
*canoe* voxoli.  
*capsicum* pima.  
*Cardinal Honeyeater* vasil.  
*careful* xuxo, kuhl.  
*carry* pouE, pæ, læhl, lahiæhl.  
*catch* talxatl.  
*caterpillar: kinds of* ho(de)raŋ, vov(o)savu.  
*caucasian* metalu.  
*cave* vaniei.

*chase off* sisilA, sue-ni.  
*chest* valhasE.  
*chestnut* map.  
*chew* ŋasl.  
*chicken* tuto.  
*chicken feather* hiltuto.  
*chicken egg* ræltuto.  
*child* natE.  
*chief* sup, sup toto.  
*cigarette* eas.  
*citrus fruit* hovea.  
*clam* tiei, taltiti.  
*clean* motenl, mæmæse.  
*clear land* lasl.  
*climb* pueou, punei.  
*close* vohon.  
*clothing* eisiŋ.  
*cloud* mamah.  
*cloudiness* tanuxen.  
*cloudy* tAtanuk.  
*club: war* homera.  
*cockroach* pipei.  
*coconut* mætu, ni, hohus, mæteiho, mæteipilii, mætsatin, mæthoep.  
*coconut: parts of the plant* hilmætu, osil, valmætu, koutE, valkora, hal.  
*Coconut Lory* siko.  
*cold* merir, mæsoh.  
*color* isitE.  
*come* ammei.  
*come out* sltal.

*complete* vus.

*conceive* vanE.

*confuse* vixalu.

*consent* mæin.

*cook* meses, tinl, kuk-ni.

*cooking* kuken.

*coral: kinds of* anomai, savaxer,  
merales.

*corn* sila.

*correct* mætu.

*cough* pil.

*count* vulii, pUpuluu.

*cousin* avu, mase, avukokon,  
hinne, tu, manne.

*cover* (ku)kutaxolE, kuvu-ni,  
soxatl, vunit.

*cowardly* metau, tametauen.

*cowrie* viliva.

*crab: kinds of* ah, ahusal, meap,  
oum, riu, voromot.

*crawl* kea.

*cricket* siasi.

*cross* taxotehl.

*crotch of tree* masutE.

*crow* kOkora.

*crumble from burning* meræh, merræh.

*cry* muis.

*cuckoo* hunhahau, popoxatai,  
luavon.

*customs* hain.

*cut* tei, tata, tapasl, tappasl,  
lasl, (k0)kotl, taxotehl,  
taratl.

## D

*dance* hol, hesl, holien, hesien.

*dance: kinds of* anoveviei,  
helmætu, lele, lemunai, leŋ,  
seneaŋ, ui, vota, votesi.

*daughter* natE.

*dawn* lan.

*day* melenien.

*deep* huinap, huitan.

*defecate* suh, s0sohotl, t0toh,  
t0tohotl.

*devil* temæt.

*dew* nin.

*die* mæt, lel.

*differ, different* sap.

*difficult* xeih, xehek, taxeih.

*dig* hill, kil, kIkili.

*digging stick* eikil.

*dignified* kuote.

*dirt* tan.

*dirty* mUmuu, purunl, toti.

*disinclined* vuul.

*distance* sotin.

*distribute* tItibu.

*do* sakni.

*dog* kuli(i).

*domestic plant or animal* sa.

*dove: kinds of* silip, tamera,  
vuueh, mai, tarbunbun, teau,  
uip.

*dragonfly* mumunoi.

*draw* tisl, tavea.

*dress* siŋ.

*drink* mUmun, muNI, munien, ma.

*drum (slit-gong)* vaŋiue.

*drunk* trouŋ.

*drunkenness* mumunen.

*dry* vue.

*dull* vut.

*dwarf* votoput, titamol.

## E

*ear* vuraŋE.

*earrings (of tortoise shell)*  
rælsumue.

*easy* mEmerou.

*eat* xaNI, xanien.

*eel* melit.

*egg* ræli-, rælitE.

*elbow* huhe.

*elder* muite.

*elsewhere* nout.

*empty* raŋE.

*emptyhanded* kAkanoh.

*enclose* voxxoll.

*enough* taŋ, plpin.

*entrance* puitæh.

*examine* letpisl, losill.

*exchange* xoles-ni, exoles,  
sixxoles-ni.

*excrement* te, tai.

*eye* mæt.

*eyeball* kah te mæt.

*eyebrow* ammætE.

## F

*face* valnao.

*falcon* vesik, medisa.

*fall* mot, tato, s0so, mæru.

*fan* lilih, eilih.

*Fantail: Spotted* tailel;  
*Collared* tairau.

*Fantail Warbler* (his)hismavul,  
lelivuroŋ.

*far* sotin.

*fat* mur, kəau.

*father* tame.

*fear* ulikkanen, ul kakanien.

*feather* hill, hiltuto.

*feed (an infant)* mei.

*feel* loŋE, tuxohl.

*few* tattei.

*fight* vai.

*fill* seiNI, sien.

*find* kamueti.

*finger* vakuhe.

*fingernail* kushe.

*finish* vus.

*fire* upaŋ.

*fire: to make* suppaŋ.

*firewood* ap, vatupaŋ.

*first* tiamu, mu, kor.

*fish* meseau, pəŋor.

*fish: kinds of* mætlevin, terimæt,  
ti, upaŋ, vihot, voromai.

*five* hateipin, lim.

*flea* axut.

*float* sAsal.





*happy* hæsii.  
*hard* xeih, xehek, taxeih.  
*hatchet (wooden)* sæŋot.  
*he* xi.  
*head* vatl.  
*hear* loŋE.  
*heart* honini.  
*heat* titinen.  
*heavy* meas.  
*heel* asele.  
*help* tutou-ni.  
*hen* toatou.  
*here* ak, tak, igak, xiak,  
           xitak.  
*hermit crab (kare)* atu.  
*hernia* aseloh.  
*heron: Reef H.* op, koh, rovu,  
           talieu.  
*hiccough* mesep.  
*hide* sesonl, xus, hustill.  
*hill* tituhu.  
*hit* hasl, tii.  
*hold* hurl, tEteli.  
*hole* vul, vulutE.  
*home* tim.  
*Honeyeater* hotil, vasil, husi.  
*hook* huk.  
*hope* kereitin.  
*hornet* onet.  
*hot* tltin, kAkāt.  
*house (n)* im, nemel.  
*how* tep.

*how much* uahes.  
*hum* muttut.  
*hunger* mæi.  
*hunt* lau, kokei.  
*hurricane* vatiaŋ.  
*hurry* tiomu, katten, kEkenai.  
*hurt* paŋas.  
*husband* asou.  
*husk* hilutE, hulutE.

## I

*I* inou.  
*if* xos xa.  
*ignorant* taalaŋ.  
*immediately* vari.  
*in* e, te.  
*Incubator Bird* meu.  
*inspect* losill.  
*intercourse: have, with* pui.  
*interior* vaŋitE.  
*intestines* tinE, tinai.  
*island* ut.

## J

*juice* sutE.  
*jump* hut.  
*just* tit, takes.

## K

*kava* kava.  
*kick* sivæ.  
*kidney* huimap.  
*kill* hasl.  
*Kingfisher* si.  
*kitchen* povah.  
*knee* huhæle.  
*knife* tiei.  
*knock* rErei.  
*knot (in wood)* hohitE.  
*know* kilA.  
*knuckle* mer.

## L

*lack* kAkanoh-ni.  
*language* sepinien.  
*laplap* kakah, eok, axohis,  
 axoviak, keitl.  
*laugh* men.  
*launder* vas.  
*lazy* sisi.  
*lead* hurl.  
*leaf* utE, uvuei, hahau, evuet.  
*learn* lan.  
*leave* lehitl, liql, heilinql.  
*left* muel.  
*leftover* tasau, takosau.  
*leg* le, sile.  
*lengthen* teviei-ni.  
*lie* luvosl.

*lie down* liq.  
*life* meulien.  
*lift* poratl.  
*light-haired* pÄpæŋ  
*like* hei.  
*like: be, be similar to* xoni.  
*limb* litE, tenbe, ve.  
*Limpet* suvai, sukon.  
*lip* hiluŋe.  
*listen* longeoŋ, tÄtæoŋ.  
*little* hokkoron, vuteili.  
*live* meul.  
*liver* lietne.  
*lizard: kinds of* aseluh, iai,  
 moup.  
*lobster* ui.  
*locust* kel, kelmenamen.  
*loincloth* tubasam.  
*long* teviei, mahuloŋ.  
*long time* nousap.  
*Long-tailed Cuckoo* luavon,  
 popoxatai.  
*look* laŋ, lAlaxatl, kettæh.  
*Lory* siko.  
*lose (in game)* xabin.  
*lost* kEkesae.  
*louse* ut, utlavu.  
*love* hei, eheien.  
*love potion* masiq.  
*lung* lietvovoxE.

## M

*maggot* ui.  
*make* pol-ni.  
*malaria* mæsoh.  
*male* tiramue, malhos, uetin.  
*man* tiramue, moletin, memætu, hanuhos.  
*mango* mago.  
*mangrove* toŋ.  
*manioc* maniok.  
*many* hau, holu.  
*marker* malele.  
*marry* hurl, tEteli.  
*master* taen.  
*mat* suvon.  
*maybe* xos, nehei.  
*meat* hisi.  
*medicine* mersin.  
*meet* hisuu, hishisu.  
*meeting house* nemel.  
*melon* melen.  
*mirror* lettum.  
*miss* lu.  
*mist* hinhos.  
*mollusc* vutaŋor; See *shellfish*.  
*money* hat.  
*moon* eveti.  
*moonlight* menen.  
*more* mo.  
*morning* mæakue.  
*mosquito* sikan.  
*moss* lilum.

*moth* veveal, vevero.  
*mother* ninE.  
*mountain* hu, vathu, romolhu.  
*mourning* lumot.  
*mouth* valoŋo.  
*mouth harp* hisittaŋ.  
*much* holu.  
*mud* lelep.  
*mullet* anas.  
*multi-colored* rlrhii.  
*Mynah* maina.

## N

*name* isE.  
*Nautilus* mæmæl.  
*navel* opitE.  
*near* visell.  
*neck* hiræ.  
*needle (of plant)* am.  
*nest* nu.  
*net* ulul.  
*nettle* ai.  
*new* netahu.  
*news* niusnen.  
*night* voŋien, taboŋ.  
*no* e-e.  
*noise* taŋalen.  
*noisy* taŋal.  
*noon* piniai.  
*nose* vukusl.  
*notch* kor, kor-ni.

now xiak, xitak, taxiak, tuok.  
 nowadays (x)osaliak.  
 nurse sus.  
 nut mal.

## O

octopus uit.  
 of teNI, a, na, ma, sa.  
 off (ra)ratl.  
 offspring tutE, tututE.  
 often vāhakut.  
 old talite, natemātu, memātu,  
 tovolih.  
 Olive shell hismen, sisiŋ.  
 on e, xatl.  
 one tei.  
 only taŋ, kestak, kestaŋ,  
 sutaŋ.  
 open laŋA, huuE, sahA, hokA.  
 operculum vak, lili, raliŋ.  
 or mu.  
 orange hovea.  
 other tova, sap.  
 out (ra)ratl.  
 outrigger tisem.  
 outside hale.  
 over xorau.

## P

Paama veum.  
 paddle həlis, vatihos.  
 pandanus vāh.

pant sehseh.  
 papaya vesahii.  
 parrot siko, reŋ.  
 Parrot-finch rorovuli, vatimān.  
 path susei.  
 pay pos, xalE.  
 pea hoveak.  
 peace tamat.  
 peel hulutl, huuE, hilutE,  
 tasl.  
 penetrate kital, kittal.  
 penis (n)o.  
 permit mæi-ni.  
 person moletin, hanu.  
 pick up hurl, latl.  
 piece tepəŋitE.  
 pig ueili, silutE, luholu,  
 vuuei, apees.  
 pigeon uip, teau, tarbunbun,  
 mai.  
 pile sOsoNI.  
 pinch hitl.  
 pine eal.  
 pine needle amuel.  
 pineapple painap.  
 place ut, rute.  
 plant lihl.  
 plant: unidentified plants with  
 edible roots or leaves eal,  
 as, mabur, ohia, pavoxin,  
 riru, veak.  
 plant: other unidentified plants  
 ea, evaramēi, lovus, luvoluvos  
 asu, meral, mulmulis, oali,  
 rageasu, teasu, tiletil,  
 uetiet, uihahau, vavuei.  
 play xeou.

*plug up* sikkuxolE.  
*point (in a game)* atin, teal.  
*post* pos.  
*potato: sweet* kumal.  
*potion: love* masiq.  
*practice* terohon-ni, teterohonien.  
*precede* tiamu.  
*pregnant* meas.  
*premonition: have, of* lele.  
*protrude* tup.  
*pubic hair* amsaqe, amuno.  
*puddle* vuroei.  
*pull* lihii, taltitii.  
*punch* tii.  
*Purple Swamphen* aiou.  
*purpose* nan.  
*push* tivini.  
*put* sonl, liql, sei.

## Q

*quickly* katten, kamanon.  
*quiet* tanal.

## R

*rain* us, mus.  
*raise* poratl.  
*rat* asu.  
*ray (fish)* vuueh.  
*read* rit, vulii.  
*readiness* mase-en.

*ready* mase.  
*really* xati, pelei.  
*recognize* kila, letaalan-ni.  
*red (pl)* pili.  
*Red-bellied Fruit Dove* tamera,  
 huno, lilum.  
*reddish-brown* meemei.  
*remain* ta, tana, totak,  
 takosau, tasau.  
*reef* mai.  
*remember* nEneml.  
*rest* ηEngel.  
*return* tilomun.  
*ribs* valxo.  
*rice* rælititin.  
*right* mætu.  
*ringworm* his.  
*ripen* men.  
*rise* lis, mea, mellor.  
*river* oeisal, poal.  
*roof* vesis, taep.  
*rooster* tomalhos, tora.  
*root* litE.  
*rope* au.  
*rot* vo.  
*rough* ηAnarou, pUpuru.  
*round* mUmuli, kapis.  
*row* hælis.  
*rubbish* tisok, lel.  
*rump* vill.  
*run* loh, hil.

## S

*sack* pæk.  
*salt* tas.  
*salt: to lack* mæle.  
*same* nen, mak.  
*sand* suvien.  
*sandpiper* hehe, hohotas.  
*sap* tutE.  
*satisfy* vin.  
*say* hit(ene), hiteni, xa.  
*scallop* tu.  
*Scarlet Robin* menri.  
*scarred leg* hovaxer.  
*scatter* lelenl.  
*school* sukul.  
*scrape* hui.  
*scratch* kAkale.  
*sea* bien, tas.  
*sea cucumber* vovilo.  
*sea urchin* metaniai.  
*search* laŋ.  
*season: to* masan-ni.  
*seasoned: be properly* kAkas.  
*section* merutE.  
*secure* pilei.  
*see* pusl.  
*seed* utiei, ututE.  
*self* tasse.  
*sell* pos-ni.  
*sensitive grass* papat, onin.  
*separate* tlti.

*set (of sun)* nu.  
*sew* till, tltil.  
*shadow* nini.  
*share* tltibu.  
*shark* saak, vueavuel.  
*sharp* kan.  
*sharpen* hæll.  
*she* xi.  
*shed* vah.  
*shell* vali-, valitE, 'valkora,  
     valihe, valihoh, valmætu.  
*shell armband* ai.  
*shell trumpet* ameru.  
*shellfish (live)* vutaŋor.  
*shellfish: kinds of* ameru,  
     hilunai, hismen, holeal, huso,  
     mælmæl, marakon, lihhuui,  
     mæmmon, merakon, mesin,  
     moluol, momatu, momousi,  
     mueaxue, sal, selsoso, ses,  
     seslipon, sesmahutahut,  
     sesveik, sisin, sukon,  
     sukuhos, sunai, suvai, ramul,  
     taleai, talimalim, tavu,  
     timæru, tu, tuaxohis, tuman,  
     tumap, tuvas, tuvasin, uhos,  
     ueih, vaheitovus, valessuh,  
     valmamum, valtavu, valusu,  
     vatiei, vatisu, vatvuuei,  
     vilapæŋ, voromaes, vuvus.  
*shelve* hei-ni.  
*shine (of moon)* mem.  
*Shining Cuckoo* hughahau.  
*shoot* pĀpæn, tuvA.  
*short* teremue.  
*shortened* mur.  
*shortsighted* hemue.  
*shortsightedness* bemue-en.  
*shout* meun.

*sibling of same sex* tu.  
*sick* mesei.  
*sickness*   
*side* ri.  
*Silver-eared Honeyeater* hotil.  
*similar: be, to* xoni.  
*similarity* gonien.  
*sing* kikei.  
*sink* merir.  
*sister* tu, hinne.  
*sister-in-law* he, avu, asou.  
*sit* totan, taxatl.  
*skin* hilbe, hilutE, hulutl.  
*skinny* lipue, valxoro.  
*sky* tilaŋ.  
*sleep* pat.  
*slice* tihii, sesah.  
*slit-gong* vaniue.  
*small* hokkoron.  
*smell* vo, vutE, puŋosl, kOkon.  
*smoke* sumoh, eas.  
*smokiness* tanuxen.  
*smoky* tAtanuk.  
*smooth* mOmotii, mOmoli.  
*snail* vatilil.  
*snake* tetal.  
*sneeze* sun.  
*so* iaxa.  
*sober* kuote.  
*soft* mEmerou.  
*soil* tan, leaŋ.  
*some* ŋan, vutetei.

*sometime* vaatop.  
*somewhere* nout.  
*son* natE.  
*song* sisien.  
*soon* vetermu.  
*soul* nini.  
*sour* kon, konkon.  
*Southeast Ambrym* tansu.  
*Southern Shrikebill* luholu.  
*sow* apees, valitE.  
*space (over the sea)* mesal,  
                                   mesavuol.  
*speak* sepin.  
*spear* meris, vatinah, vulupol,  
                                   soso, sosi.  
*speech* sepinien.  
*spider: kinds of* lilitou, varo,  
                                   voliau.  
*Spider Shell* apees, vuuei.  
*spiderweb* ramueau.  
*spill* tilenl.  
*spin* kEkereli, kelkeles-ni.  
*spirit* nini.  
*spit* kusah.  
*split* selpasl.  
*spot* rute.  
*spotted* melkabak, vohvetei,  
                                   rlrilu.  
*spouse* asou.  
*spread* tEtenai.  
*sprout* slsilu.  
*squeeze* pUpus, xuml, husl.  
*squid* uit.  
*star* hitu, masxaxa, masau.



*start* staat.

*starve* mætxat.

*stay* ta, taŋa, totak.

*steal* kAkan-ni.

*steam* saluh.

*step on* pelpasɪ, pelvull.

*stick: to* soso, till.

*stick* liei, eipou, eihou, eimat,  
eikil, vilak.

*still* tamu.

*sting* ŋasɪ.

*stone* hat.

*stop* soh.

*straight* momal, m0motii.

*strong* xeih, taxeih.

*stupid* taalaŋ.

*suddenly* mani, maxani.

*suffice* plpin.

*sugar cane* toh.

*sun* meteniai.

*sunshine* eai.

*Swamp Harrier* selimən, vəvəhum.

*sweat* vetin.

*sweet* vor.

*sweet potato* kumal.

*sweetened* kAkas.

*swell* lavuap, tEtep.

*swiftlet* avəp, toŋtoŋ.

*swim* xul.

## T

*table* teep.

*tail* xalɛ.

*take* hurl, læhl, lahiæhl.

*tale* volei.

*talk* sepin.

*tall* teviei, mahuloŋ.

*tan* horavtavi.

*taro* viak.

*taro: varieties of* abahulu,  
abutrabul, akak, alivo,  
amoluviei, amoloun, analit,  
anviou, atakkei.

*tassel* avonavon.

*taste* karpisl.

*tattoo* maŋ.

*teach* pispisl, pisenɪ.

*tear* telpasɪ, mesəh.

*tease* xeou-ni.

*tell* sep usill, hiteni.

*ten* hexalu.

*test* letpisl.

*testicles* asɛ.

*thank* mÄmæsl.

*that* xai, taxai, xor.

*that* (relative) xa.

*thatch* taxui.

*then* ma.

*there* ioxor, igoxor, iaxai,  
igaxai, igor, taxai, taxor.

*they* xalu, xatel, xil, xilvus.

*thick* buriŋ.

*thigh* merle.

*thin* mähhin, lipue.  
*thing* na, neta, holesok, nettale.  
*think* nEneml.  
*this* ak, netak, nenak, ganik,  
     ganik.  
*thorn* senutE.  
*thought* redemien.  
*three* tol.  
*throw* kup-ni, kop-ni, vak-ni.  
*thrush* taloh.  
*thus* mak.  
*tie* varE, varxatl, sarE.  
*time* taim.  
*timid* metau, tametauen.  
*tired* mÄmäl, vuuol.  
*to* miNl, teNl, e.  
*tobacco* tabak.  
*today* (x)osali.  
*toe* vakule.  
*tomorrow* visuvon.  
*tongue* me.  
*tooth* luh0.  
*top* nesau.  
*touch* tuxohl, toxoll.  
*tree* vatiei, vatitE.  
*tree: kinds of* ahii, hoveak,  
     hovavue, kases, kuiap,  
     lavavuei, nel, nai, rau, re,  
     talep, tanbur, tapmelup,  
     tapmueaxoi, tappili, tavrara,  
     tavu, valei, vei, vilu, vulih.  
*tree fern* tuhulu, vatvaran.  
*triller* muerau.  
*triton* ameru.

*trouble: get into* sagneau-ni.  
*true* reitin.  
*trunk* merutE, vatte.  
*try* sakpisl.  
*tubers* meas.  
*tumor* meletelit.  
*turn* hiles, hilhiles.  
*turtle* hi, totel.  
*twenty* hanu tap.  
*twins* meah.  
*two* lu.

## U

*ulcerated* vuvur.  
*unable* saxaras.  
*uncle* tine, pap, metuo.  
*under* pe.  
*understand* kila.  
*unwrap* huuE.  
*uproot* mall.  
*urinate* memeesl, mamei.

## V

*vegetables* matihol.  
*vein* lerumai.  
*village* matimal.  
*vine* arinu, oval.  
*volcano* venu.  
*vomit* lulu.  
*vulva* vile.

## W

*wait* tatill, titill, tamo,  
hustill.

*wake* lalei, tammea.

*walk* kaakau, baVA(ra)ŋ.

*want* hei, hit.

*war* tunon.

*warm oneself* tale.

*wart* hovus.

*wash* kasl, vasl.

*watch* laxatl.

*water* oei, tas.

*wave* tahei.

*we* ralu, tatel, xir, xaməl,  
xamətel, xaməm.

*weather* ut.

*weave* hei.

*web* ramueau, sAsar.

*whale* lerum.

*what* naha, nəh.

*when* viliəh, xos xa.

*where* xavi, hive, tavi.

*which* xavi.

*while: for a* taavehi.

*whisper* sepiaio.

*whistle* pApan, siisi.

*white* miəhʼ.

*White-breasted Honeyeater* husi.

*white-eye* tovi, tohulaia.

*White-throated Pigeon* teau.

*who* visi.

*why* ve nəh.

*wide* salele.

*wife* asou.

*wild* rAran.

*win* murihinl.

*wind* vatian.

*wing* aveu.

*with* ni, xal, telA.

*without* kAkanoh-ni.

*woman* atou, atuhos, tovolih.

*wood* liei.

*wood-swallow* vəivəi.

*work* pol, polien.

*worm* tamasis.

*wring* tappus-ni.

*wrinkled* vuhulu, popo.

*write* tis, tavea.

*wrong* muel.

## Y

*yam* hura, het.

*yam: varieties of* anolumuis,  
balbat, evap, huiu, kare,  
lulu, masiaiau, popuerohai,  
robue, uiau.

*yawn* məməi.

*yaws: person with* meles.

*year* hura.

*yellow* mean.

*Yellow White-eye* tohulaia.

*yes* iou.

*yesterday* nananoh.

*you* xouk, xamil, xamitel, xami,  
xamim, xamivus.

*younger* tesite.